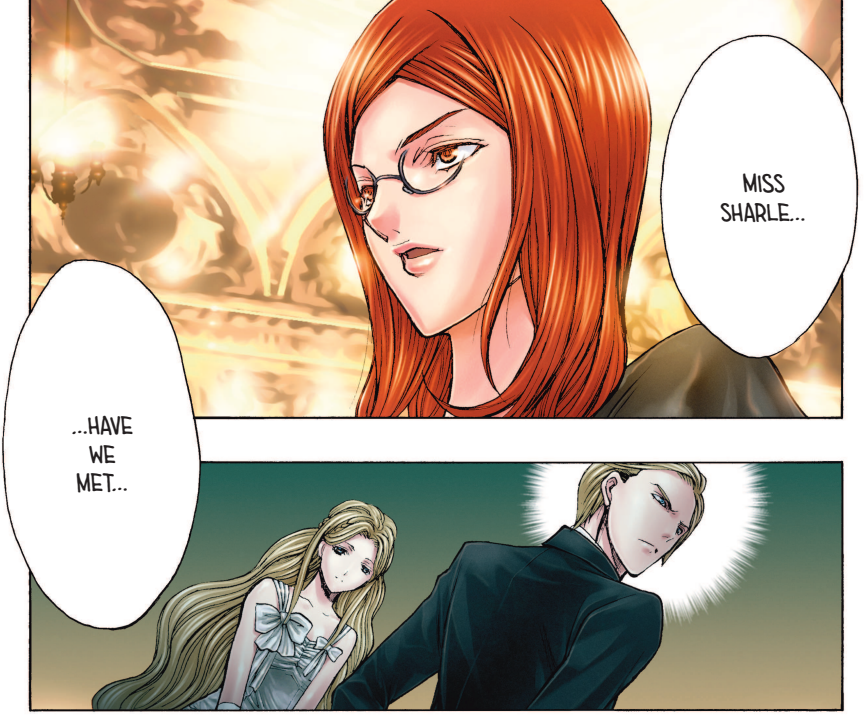
ATTACK ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL
10
ART BY SATOSHI SHIKI STORY BY RYO SUZUKAZE
ATTACK ON TITAN CREATED BY HAJIME ISAYAMA
CHARACTER DESIGNS BY THORES SHIBAMOTO


MISS SHARLE...
...HAVE WE MET...

...SOMEWHERE BEFORE?

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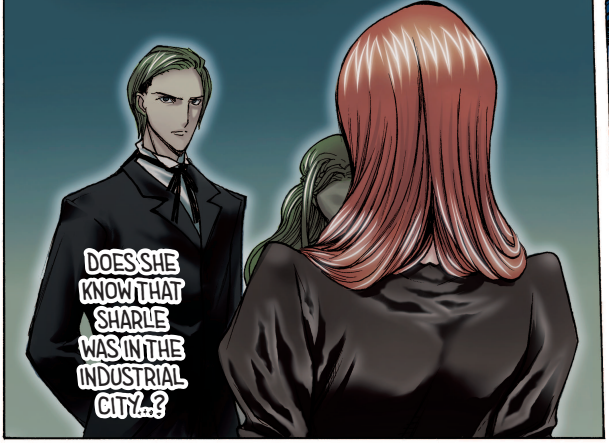
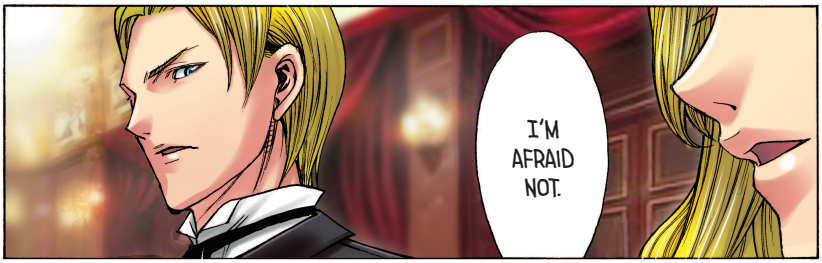
Based on "Attack on Titan"
created by Hajime Isayama
Story by: Ryo Suzukaze
Art by: Satoshi Shiki
Character Designs by: Thores Shibamoto

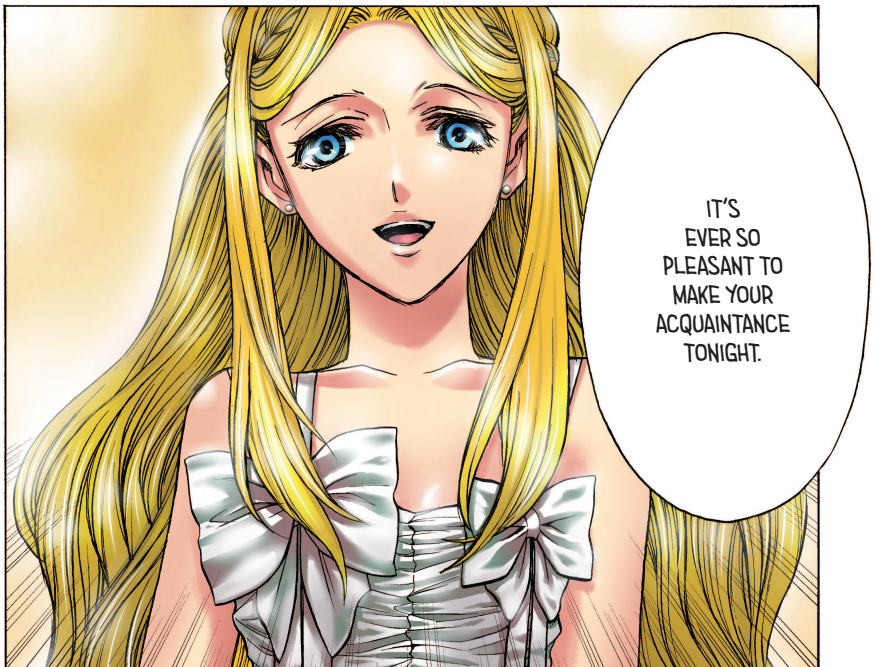
ATTACK ON TITAN 10

BEFORE THE FALL


DOES SHE KNOW THAT SHARLE WAS IN THE INDUSTRIAL CITY...?

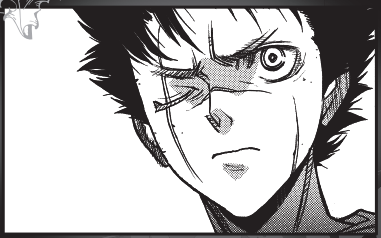
...DAMN...


I'M AFRAID NOT.


IT'S EVER SO PLEASANT TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE TONIGHT.

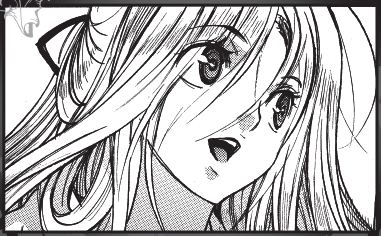
Before the fall Character Profiles

Kuklo

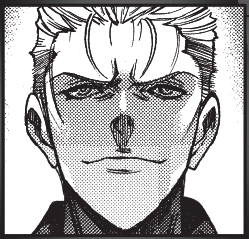


A 15-year-old boy born from a dead body packed into the vomit of a Titan, which earned him the moniker, "Titan's Son." He is fascinated with the Device as a means to defeat the Titans. The protagonist of this story. His current status is unknown, after he was defeated by Xavi.

Sharle Inocencio

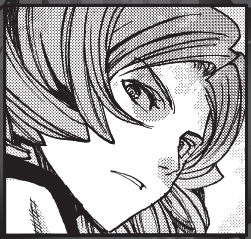


First daughter of the Inocencios, a rich merchant family within Wall Sheena. When she realized that Kuklo was a human, she taught him to speak and learn. She trained as an apprentice craftsman under Xenophon in the industrial city, until Xavi dragged her back home.



Xavi Inocencio

Head of the Inocencio family and Sharle's brother. Member of the Military Police in Shiganshina District.

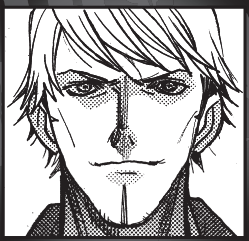


Cardina Baumeister

Kuklo's first friend in the outside world, and his companion in developing the Device.

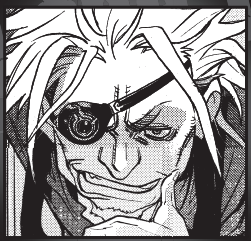
Jorge Pikale

Training Corps instructor. A former Survey Corps captain who was hailed as a hero for defeating a Titan.



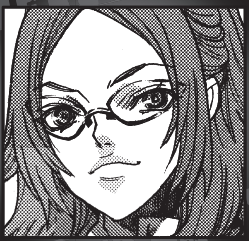
Carlo Pikale

Jorge's son and current captain of the Survey Corps. After they battled Titans together, he has great respect for Kuklo.



Xenophon Harkimo

Foreman at the Industrial City. He took over development of the Device from its inventor, Angel.



Gloria Bernhart

Captain of the Military Police in Shiganshina District. A powerful MP officer with a cold, tactical mind.

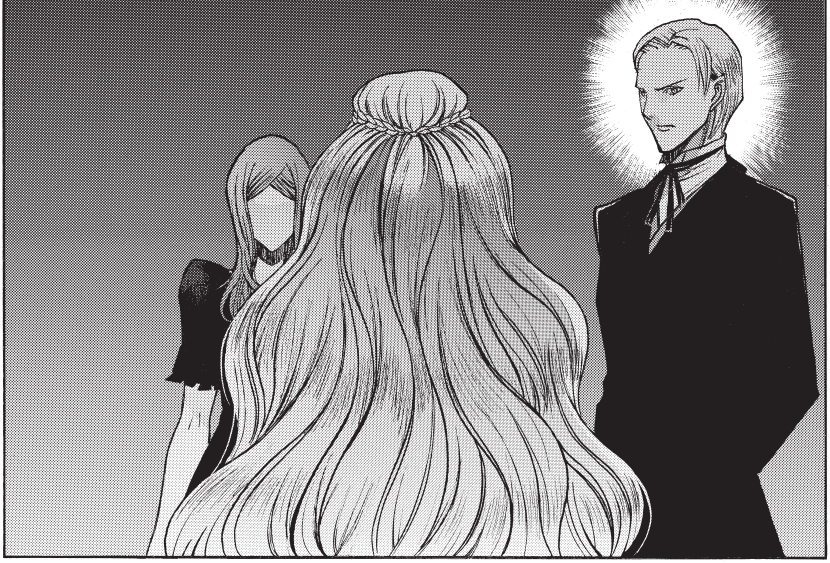
The Story So Far

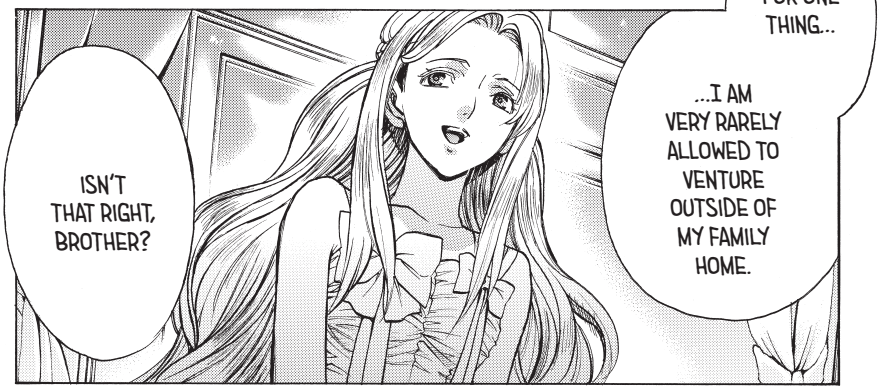
When a Titan terrorized Shiganshina District and left behind a pile of vomit, a baby boy was miraculously born of a pregnant corpse. This boy was named Kuklo, the "Titan's Son," and treated as a sideshow freak. Eventually the wealthy merchant Dario Inocencio bought Kuklo to serve as a punching bag for his son, Xavi. On the other hand, when she learned he was human and not the son of a Titan, Xavi's sister Sharle decided to teach him the words and knowledge of humanity instead. Two years later, Kuklo escaped from the mansion along with Sharle, who was being forced into a marriage she did not desire.

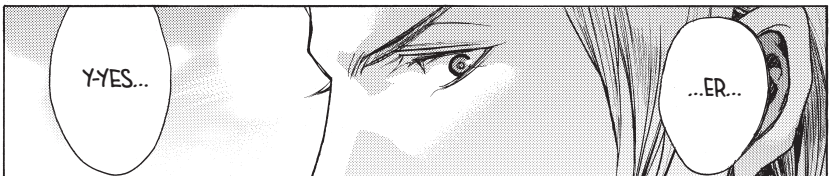
In Shiganshina District, the Survey Corps was preparing for its first expedition outside of the wall in 15 years. Kuklo snuck into the expedition's cargo wagon, but the Titan they ran across was far worse of a monster than he expected. He helped the Survey Corps survive, but inside the walls he was greeted by the Military Police, who wanted the "Titan's Son" on charges of murdering Dario. In prison, he met Cardina, a young man jailed over political squabbles. They hoped to escape to safety when exiled beyond the Wall, but found themselves surrounded by a pack of Titans. It was through the help of Jorge, former Survey Corps Captain and first human to defeat a Titan, that the two boys escaped with their lives. The equipment that Jorge used was the very "Device" that was the key to defeating the Titan those 15 years ago.

Kuklo and Cardina escaped the notice of the MPs by hiding in the industrial city, where they found Sharle. It is there that the three youngsters learned the truth of the ill-fated Titan-capturing expedition 15 years earlier, and swore to uphold the will of Angel, the inventor of the Device. Next, Kuklo and Cardina headed back to Shiganshina to test out a new model of the Device developed by Xenophon, Angel's friend and rival, but they failed to defeat a Titan with it.

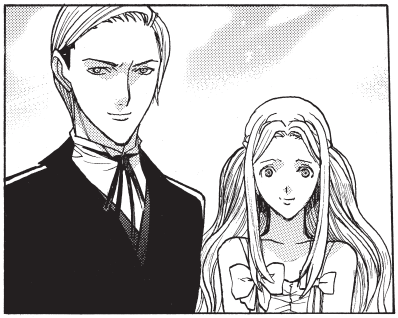
As he recovered from his injuries, Kuklo heard ominous rumors about MP activity, and rushed to the Industrial City to protect Sharle. When he got to the gate of the city, he came across the stunning sight of battle between anti-establishment dissidents and the Military Police. Kuklo was able to slip through the chaos to rescue Sharle from the dissidents. But just as they started to celebrate their reunion, Sharle's brother Xavi arrived, and turned his sword on Kuklo. Xavi won the battle by inflicting a grievous blow on Kuklo, who fell into the river. Sharle was taken back to the Inocencio mansion, where she was forced to make her society debut for the sake of Xavi's political ambition. At the event, she suddenly came face-to-face with Captain Gloria, who had just finished quelling the uprising in the Industrial City.

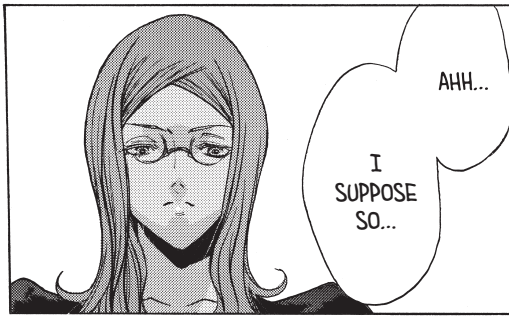


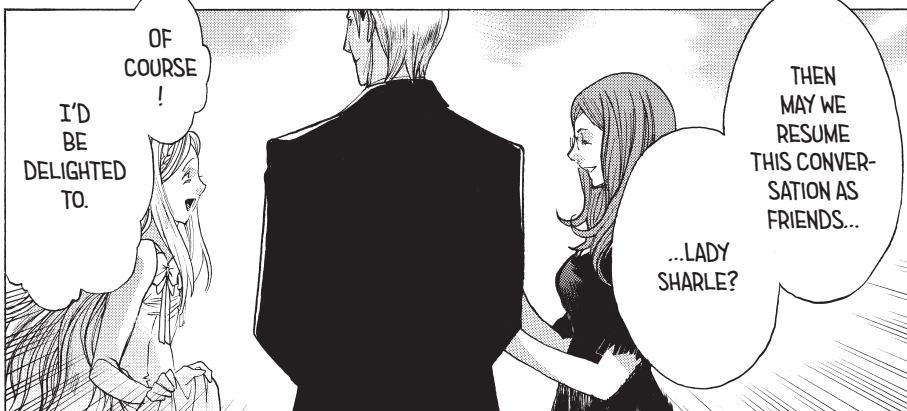

FOR ONE THING...
...I AM VERY RARELY ALLOWED TO VENTURE OUTSIDE OF MY FAMILY HOME.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, BROTHER?

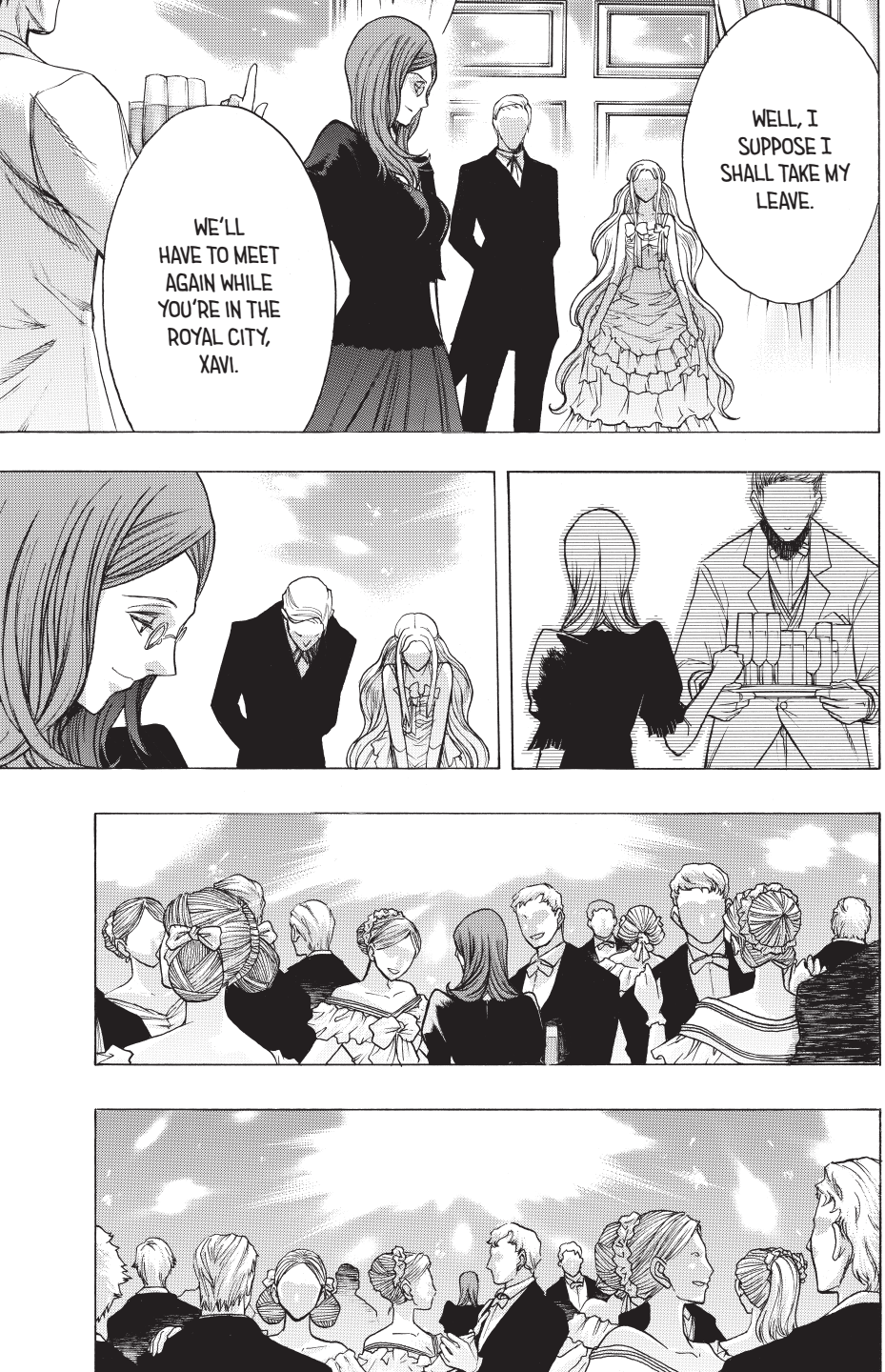

Y-YES...
...ER...

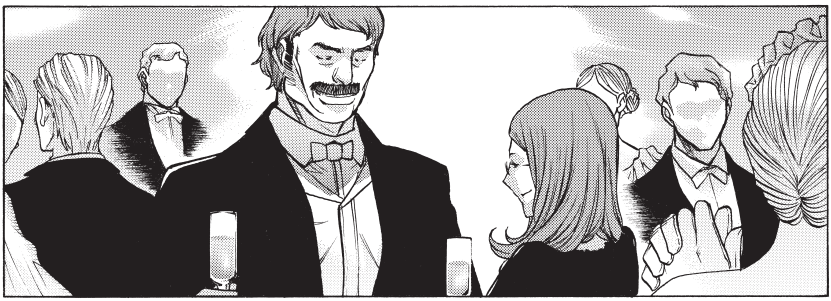
I'M CERTAIN YOU'RE MISTAKEN, CAPTAIN BERNHART.
MY SISTER WAS RATHER SICKLY, I'M AFRAID. OUR LATE FATHER WAS OVERZEALOUS IN BEING PROTECTIVE OF HER, AND HARDLY EVER LET HER LEAVE THE HOUSE.

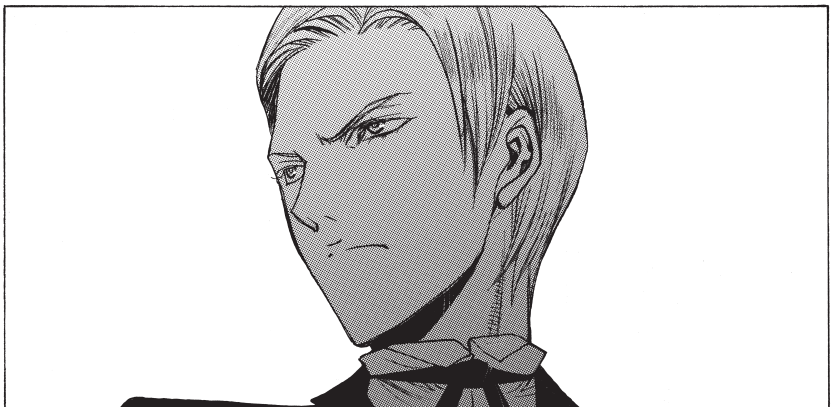


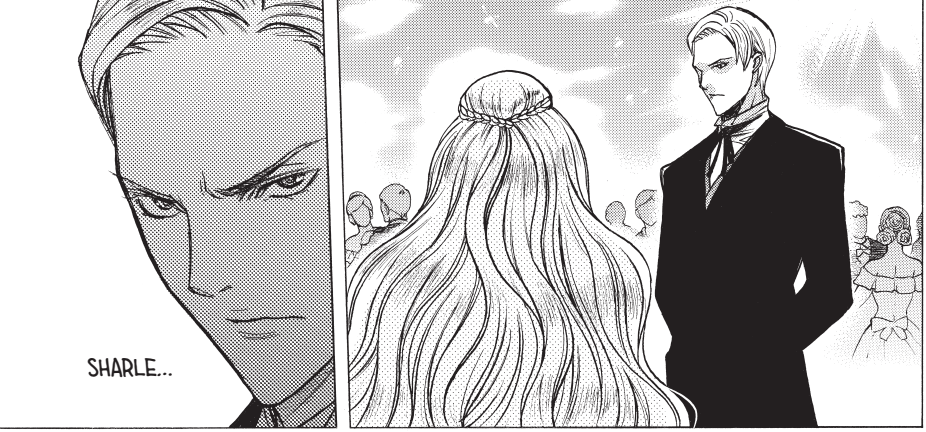

AHH...
I SUPPOSE SO...

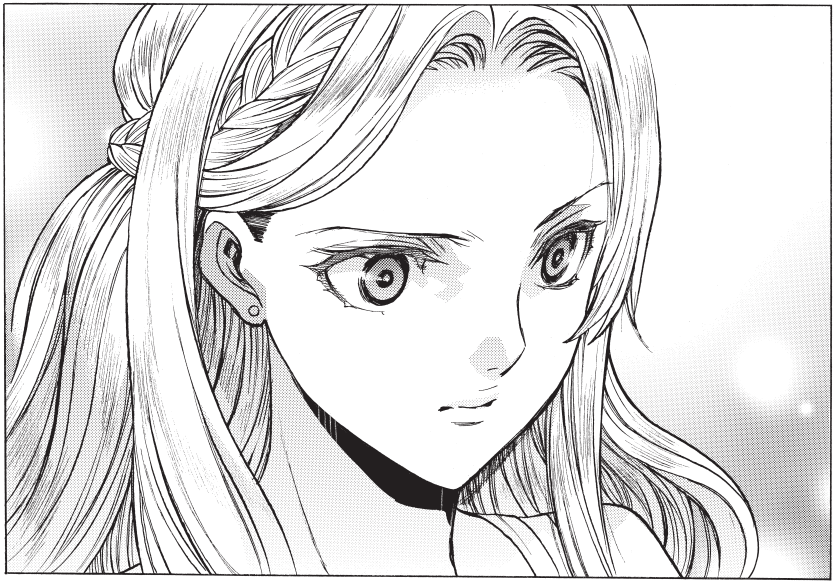

OF COURSE!
I'D BE DELIGHTED TO.
THEN MAY WE RESUME THIS CONVERSATION AS FRIENDS...
...LADY SHARLE?

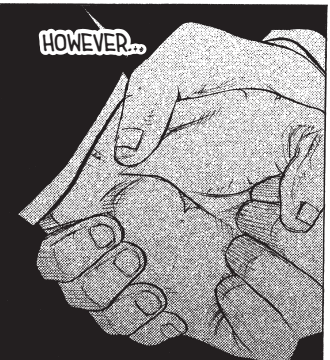

WELL, I SUPPOSE I SHALL TAKE MY LEAVE.
WE'LL HAVE TO MEET AGAIN WHILE YOU'RE IN THE ROYAL CITY, XAVI.

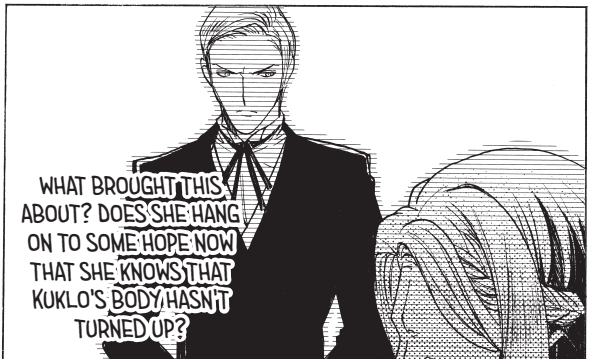




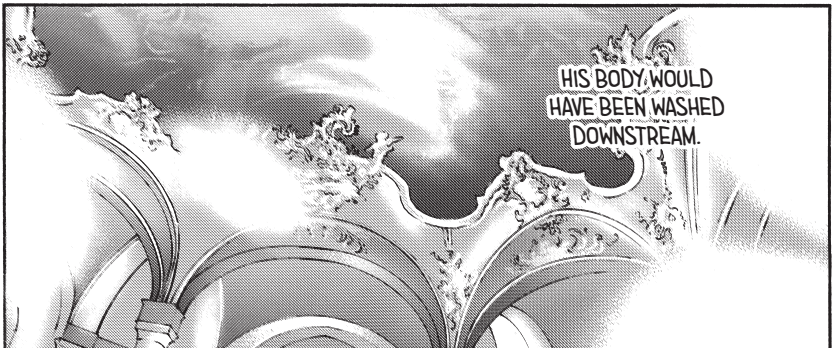

SHARLE...

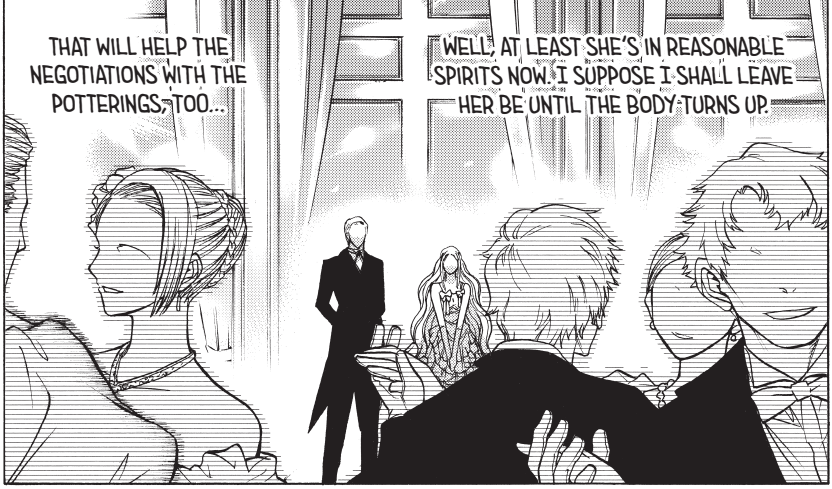


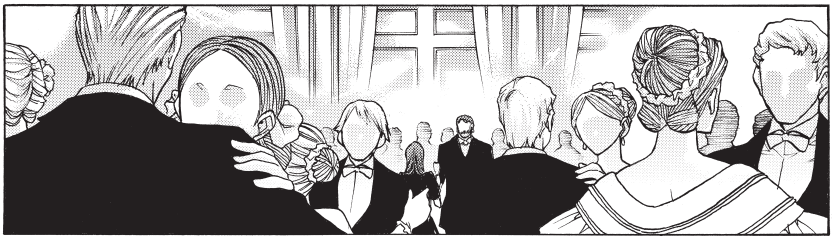

HOWEVER...

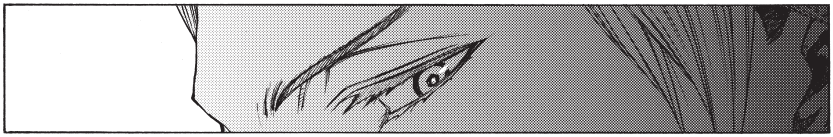

WHAT BROUGHT THIS ABOUT? DOES SHE HANG ON TO SOME HOPE NOW THAT SHE KNOWS THAT KUKLO'S BODY HASN'T TURNED UP?

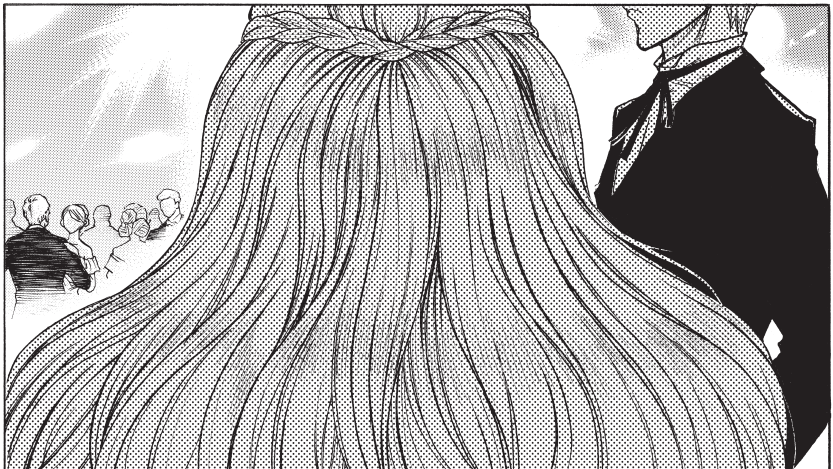
THE TITAN'S SON IS DEAD—THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF THAT.
I STRUCK THAT BLOW MYSELF. I FELT HOW SOLIDLY IT LANDED.

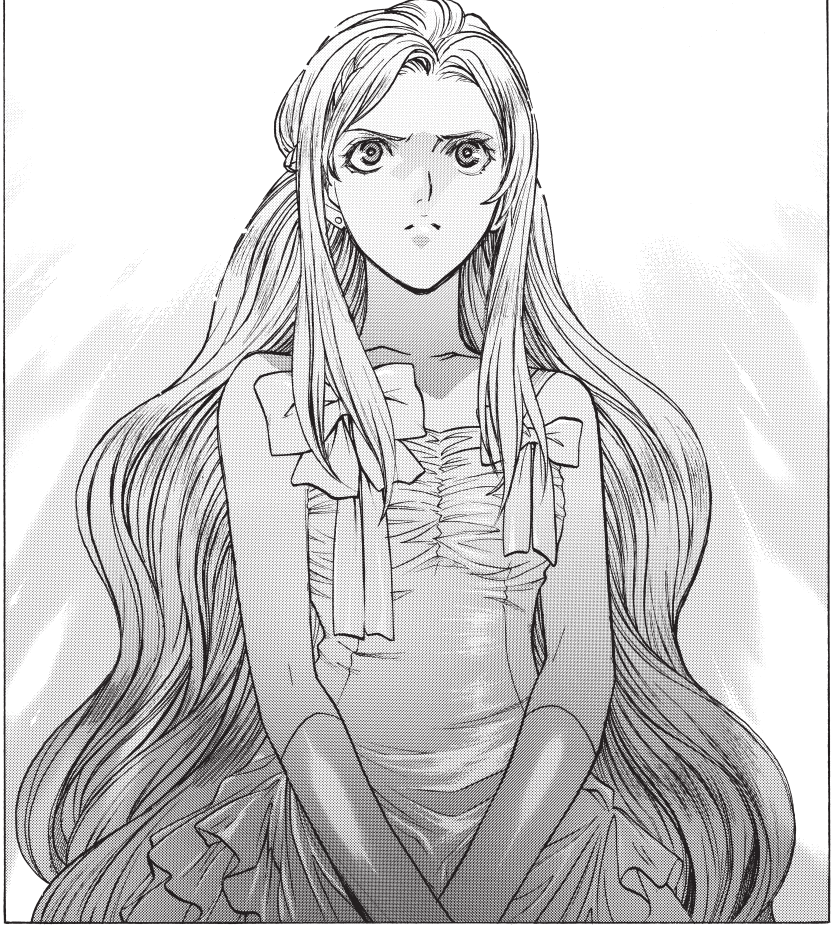

HIS BODY WOULD HAVE BEEN WASHED DOWNSTREAM.

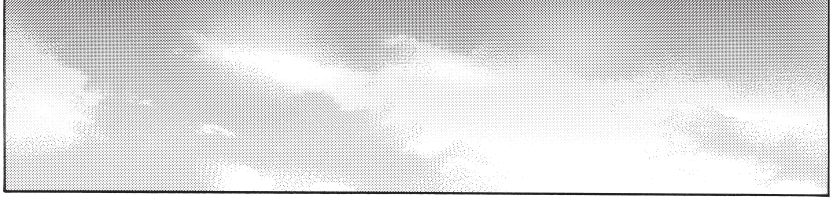

THAT WILL HELP THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE POTTERINGS, TOO...
WELL, AT LEAST SHE'S IN REASONABLE SPIRITS NOW. I SUPPOSE I SHALL LEAVE HER BE UNTIL THE BODY TURNS UP.

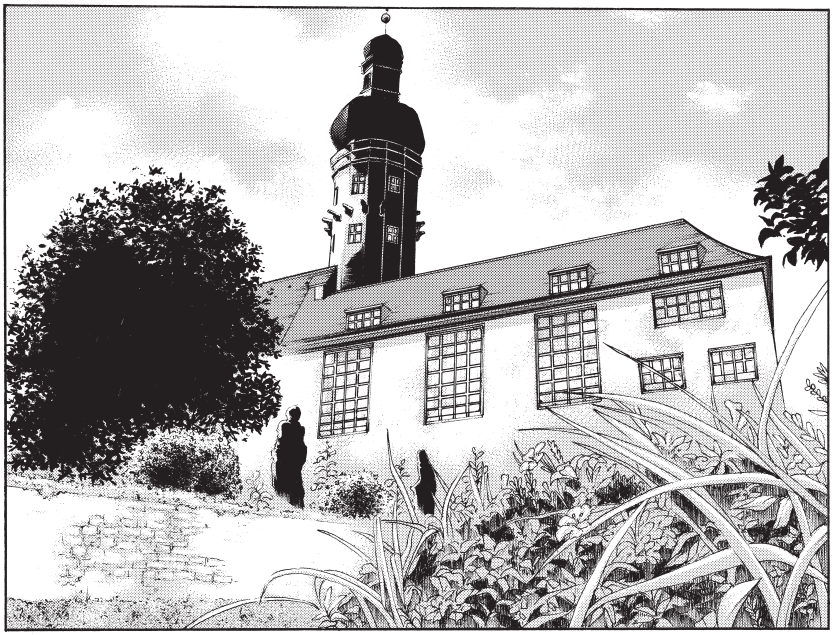


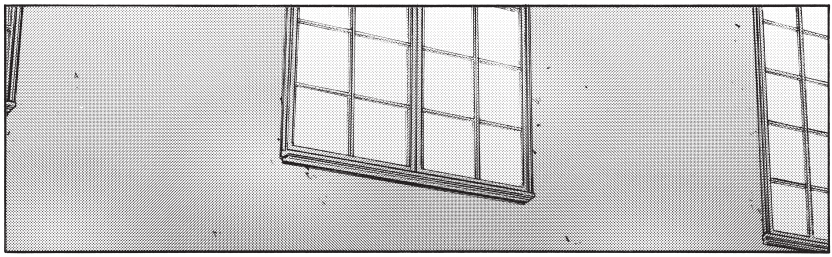


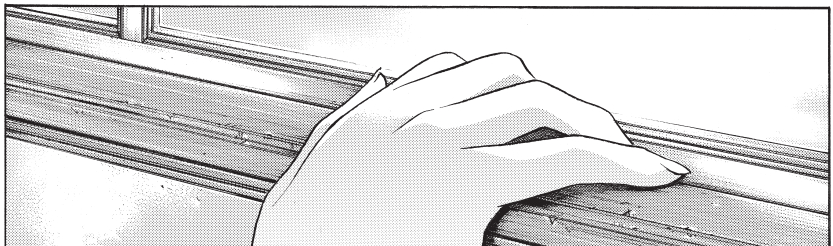


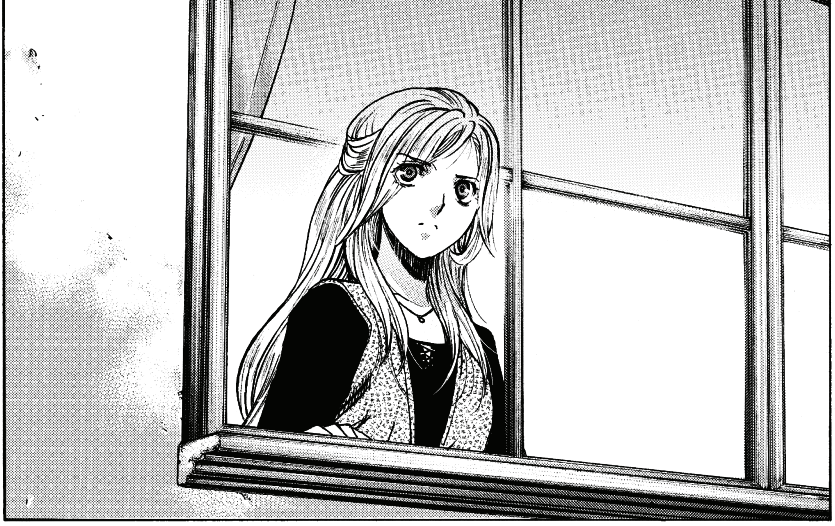


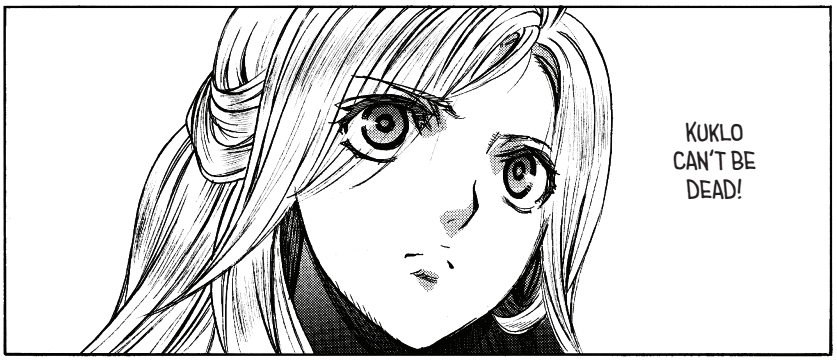




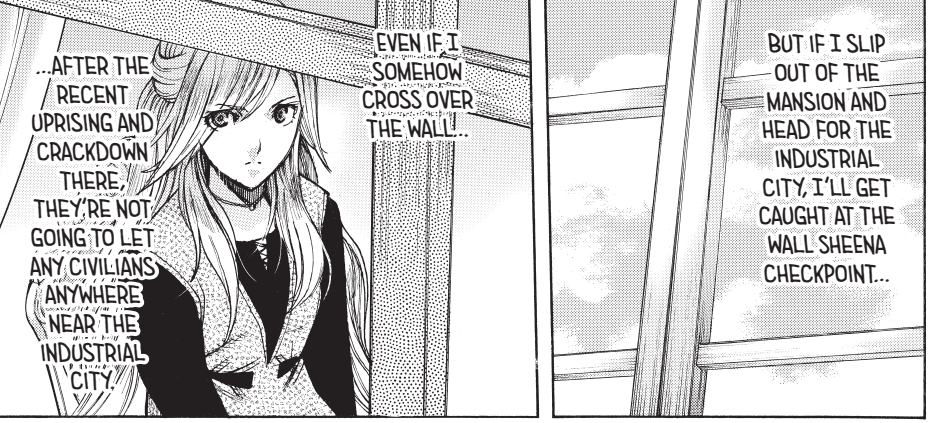


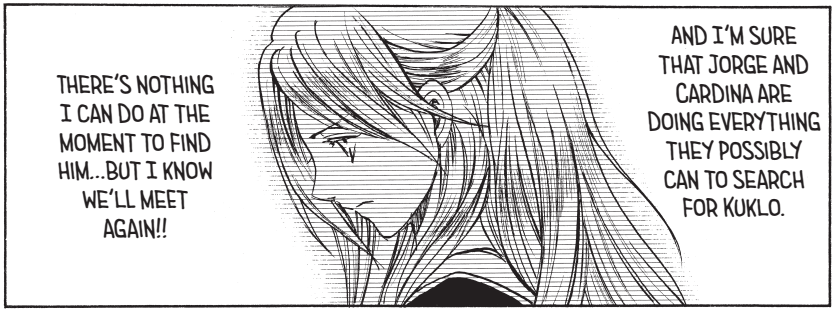


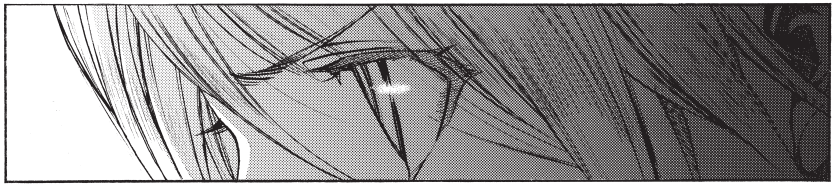


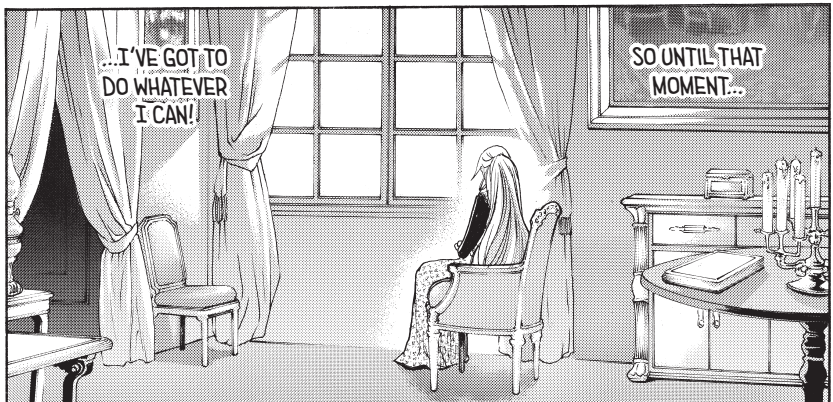

KUKLO CAN'T BE DEAD!

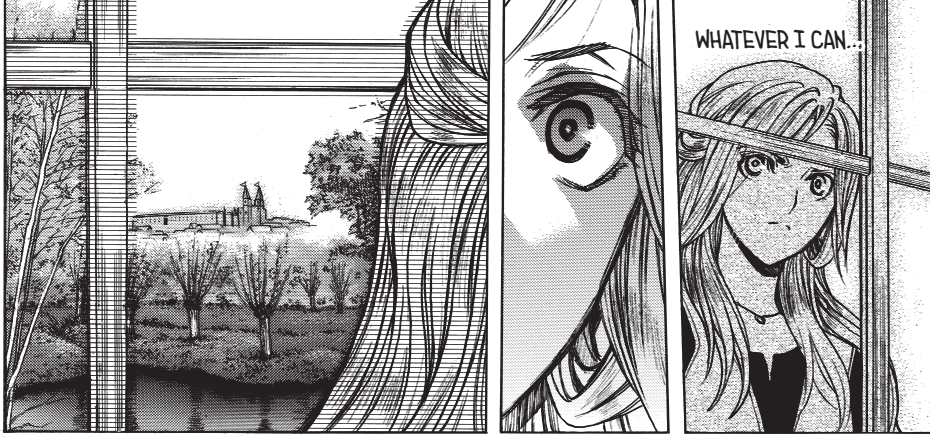
I WANT TO GO LOOK FOR HIM RIGHT NOW!!
IF HIS BODY HASN'T TURNED UP, THEN HE MUST STILL BE ALIVE!

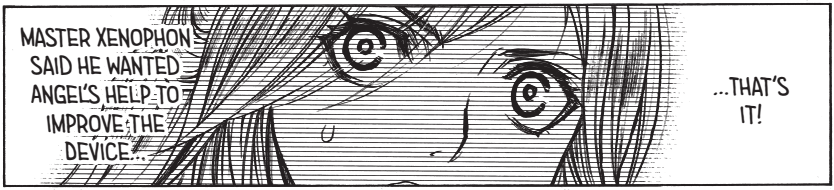

...AFTER THE RECENT UPRISING AND CRACKDOWN THERE, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO LET ANY CIVILIANS ANYWHERE NEAR THE INDUSTRIAL CITY.
EVEN IF I SOMEHOW CROSS OVER THE WALL...
BUT IF I SLIP OUT OF THE MANSION AND HEAD FOR THE INDUSTRIAL CITY, I'LL GET CAUGHT AT THE WALL SHEENA CHECKPOINT...


THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO AT THE MOMENT TO FIND HIM...BUT I KNOW WE'LL MEET AGAIN!!
AND I'M SURE THAT JORGE AND CARDINA ARE DOING EVERYTHING THEY POSSIBLY CAN TO SEARCH FOR KUKLO.

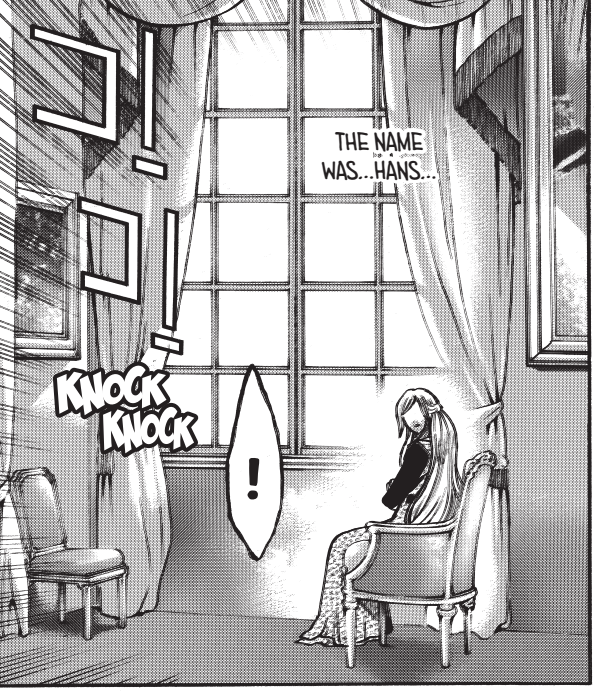



...I'VE GOT TO DO WHATEVER I CAN!
SO UNTIL THAT MOMENT...

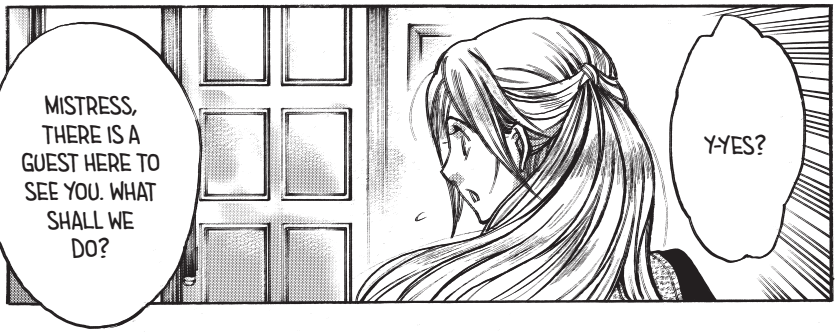

WHATEVER I CAN...

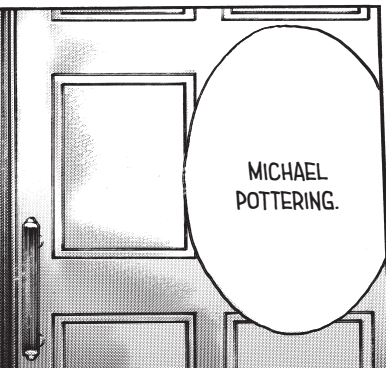

MASTER XENOPHON SAID HE WANTED ANGEL'S HELP TO IMPROVE THE DEVICE...
...THAT'S IT!

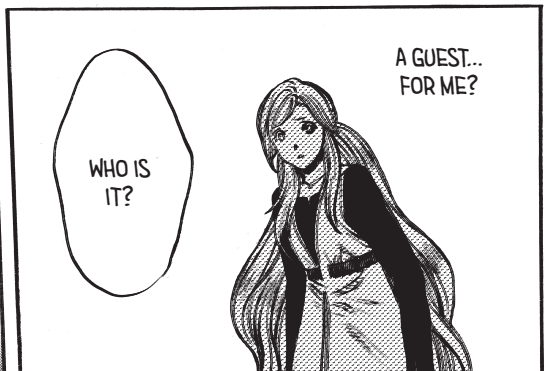
ABOUT TWO DAYS BEFORE THE UPRISING, THERE WAS THAT DAGGER DESIGNED BY ANGEL AMONG THE WEAPONS THAT CAME IN FOR MAINTENANCE.
MAYBE I CAN GET TO ANGEL THROUGH THE OWNER OF THAT WEAPON...

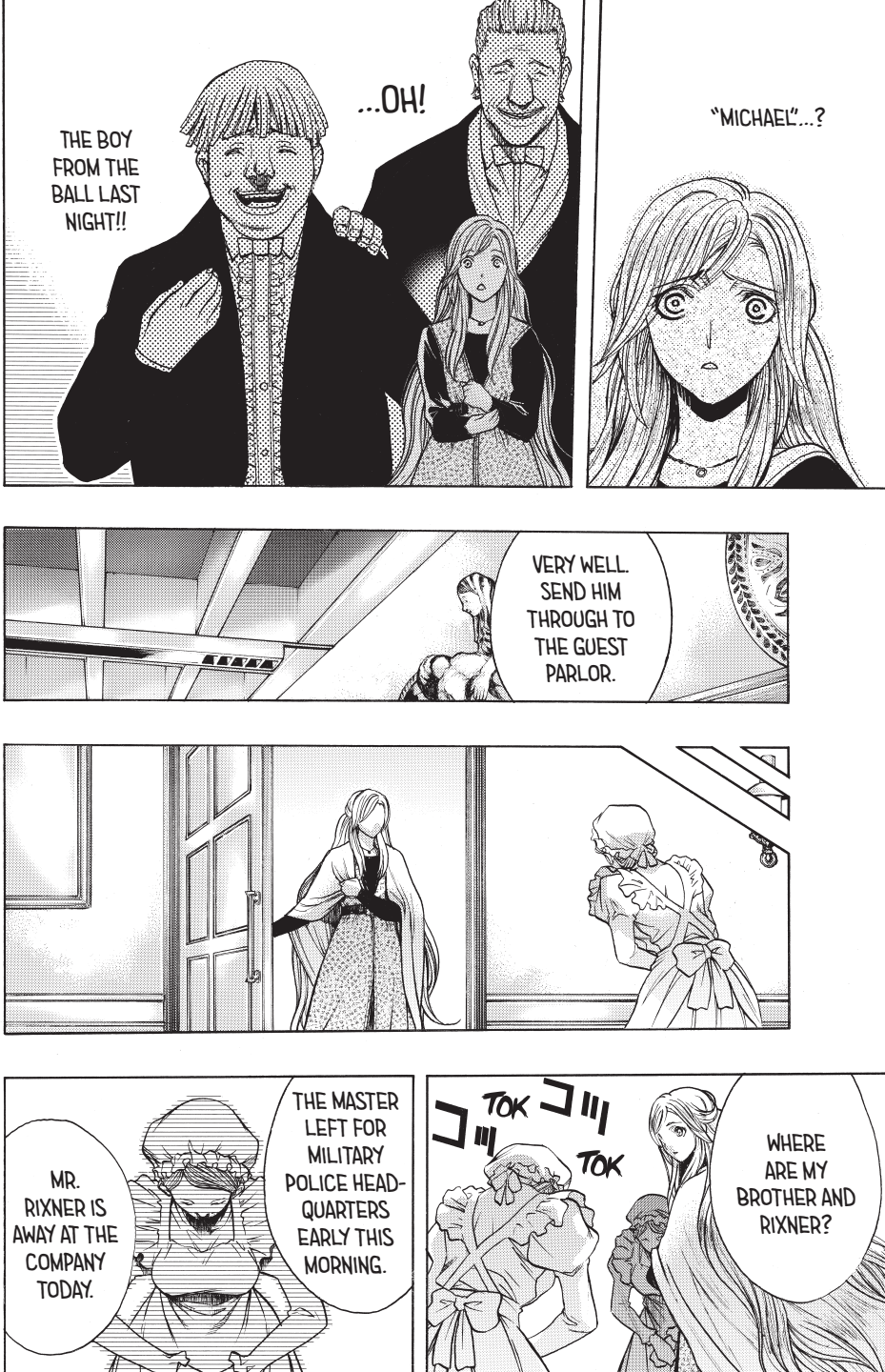

THE NAME WAS... HANS...
KNOCK KNOCK
!

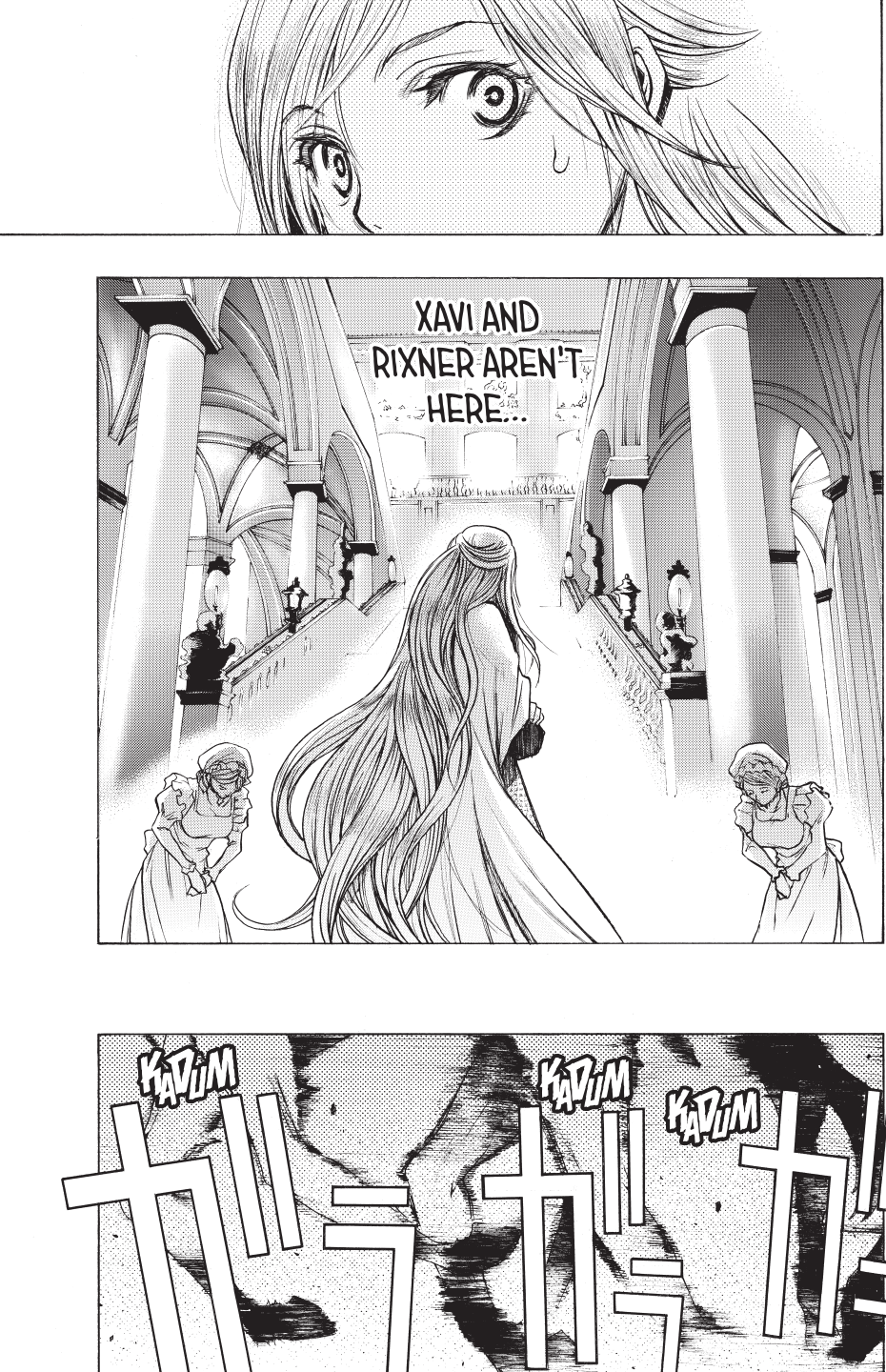
WAIT... AND THE ADDRESS OF THE DAGGER'S OWNER POINTED BACK TO THE CENTRAL MP BARRACKS...

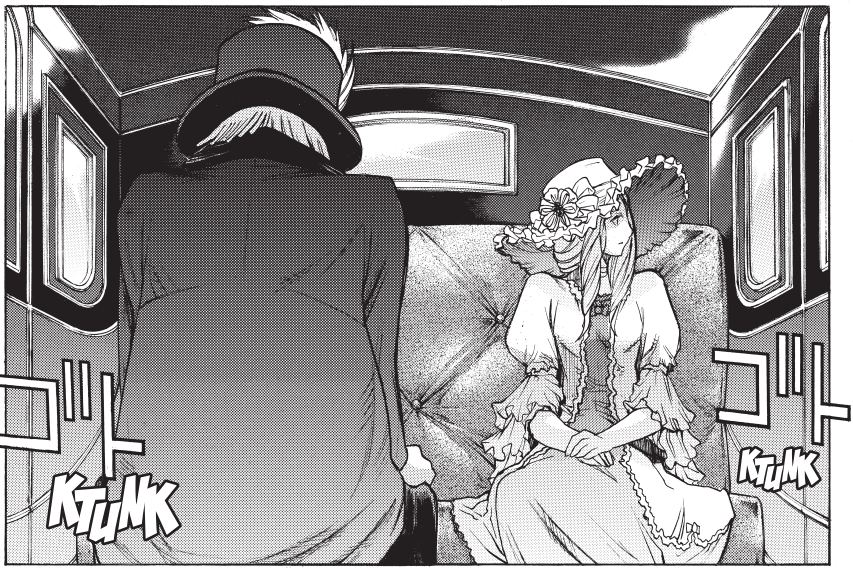

MISTRESS, THERE IS A GUEST HERE TO SEE YOU. WHAT SHALL WE DO?
Y-YES?


MICHAEL POTTERING.


WHO IS IT?
A GUEST... FOR ME?


THE BOY FROM THE BALL LAST NIGHT!!
...OH!
"MICHAEL"...?
VERY WELL. SEND HIM THROUGH TO THE GUEST PARLOR.
MR. RIXNER IS AWAY AT THE COMPANY TODAY.
THE MASTER LEFT FOR MILITARY POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS EARLY THIS MORNING.
TOK
TOK
TOK
WHERE ARE MY BROTHER AND RIXNER?


XAVI AND RIXNER AREN'T HERE...
KADUM
KADUM
KADUM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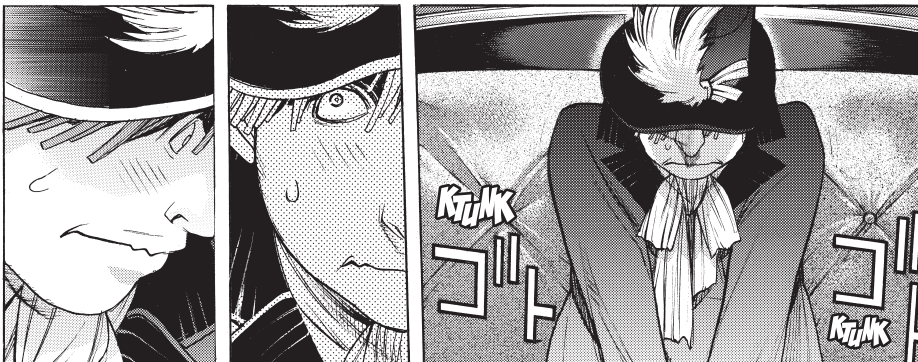
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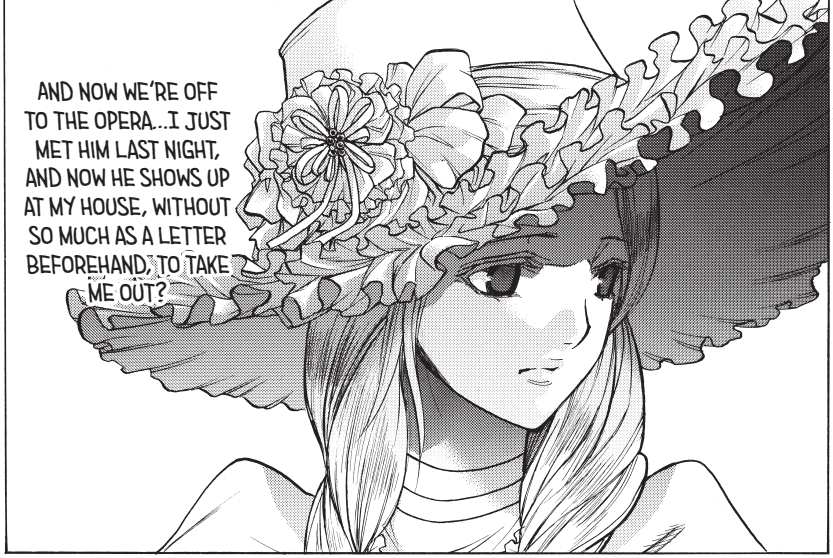
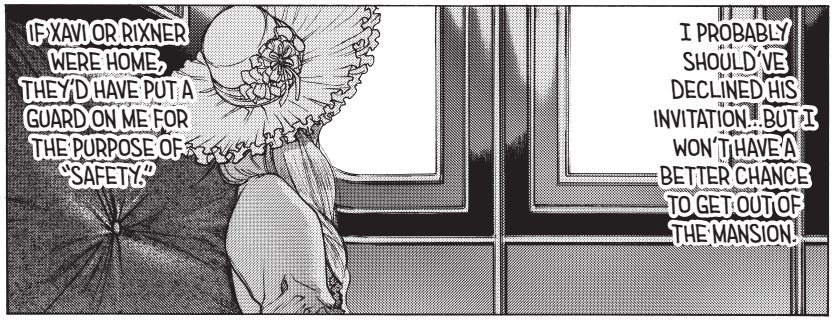
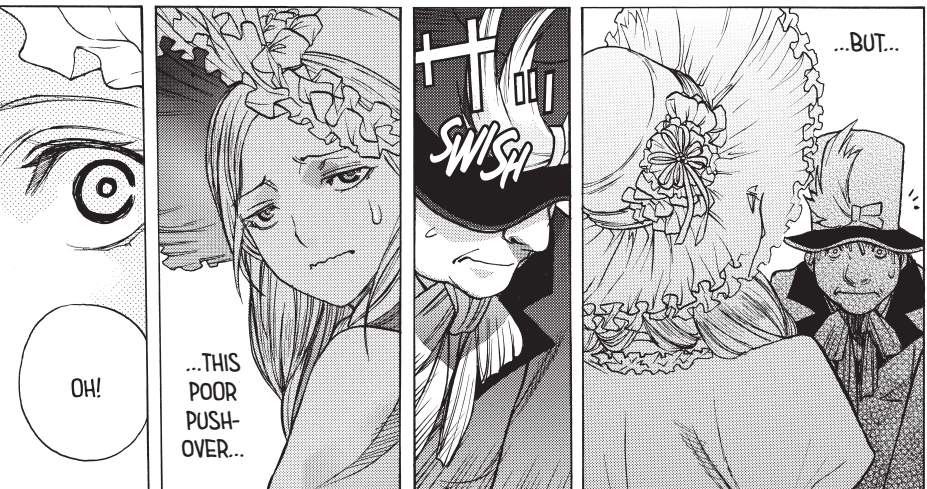

AND NOW WE'RE OFF TO THE OPERA...I JUST MET HIM LAST NIGHT, AND NOW HE SHOWS UP AT MY HOUSE, WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A LETTER BEFOREHAND, TO TAKE ME OUT?

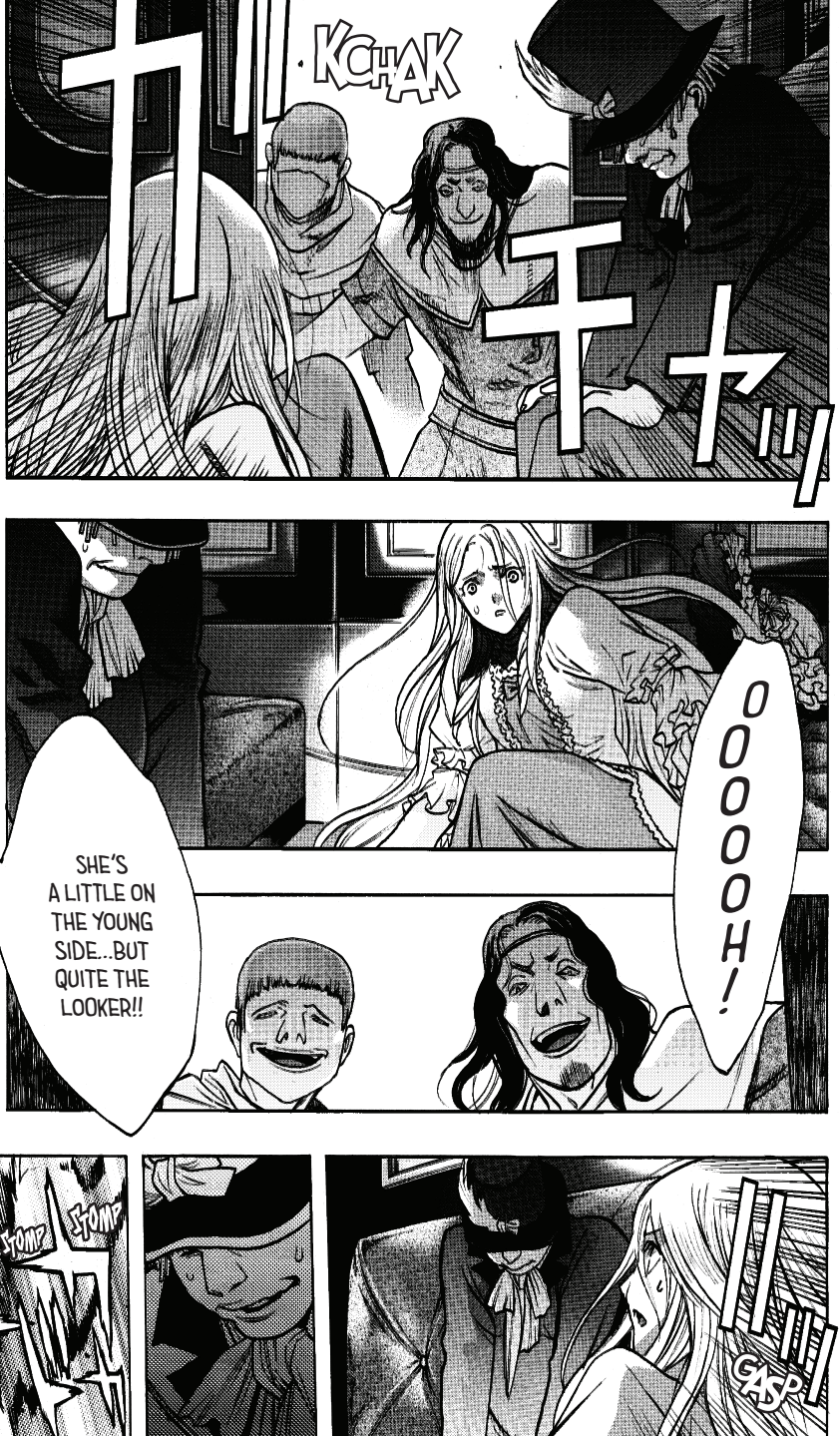

IF XAVI OR RIXNER WERE HOME, THEY'D HAVE PUT A GUARD ON ME FOR THE PURPOSE OF "SAFETY."
I PROBABLY SHOULD'VE DECLINED HIS INVITATION...BUT I WON'T HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO GET OUT OF THE MANSION!


OH!
...THIS POOR PUSH-OVER...
SWISH
...BUT...

カポラ KAPOM KAPOM カポラ
KAPOM カポラ
EXCUSE ME, MICHAEL !!
WOULD YOU STOP THE CARRIAGE OUTSIDE OF MILITARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS OVER THERE?
I, ERR... I HAVE A MESSAGE I MUST RELAY TO MY BROTHER THERE...IT WILL ONLY TAKE A MOMENT!
WHAT ?!
KLATTER KLATTER
LET'S HOPE THAT THE OWNER OF THE DAGGER JUST SO HAPPENS TO BE THERE...

KOTUNK
ER... MI-CHAEL ?
KOTUNK
RATTLL
RATTLL
RATTLL
PLEASE! STOP THE CARRIAGE !!
PLEASE, MICHAEL !!!
...

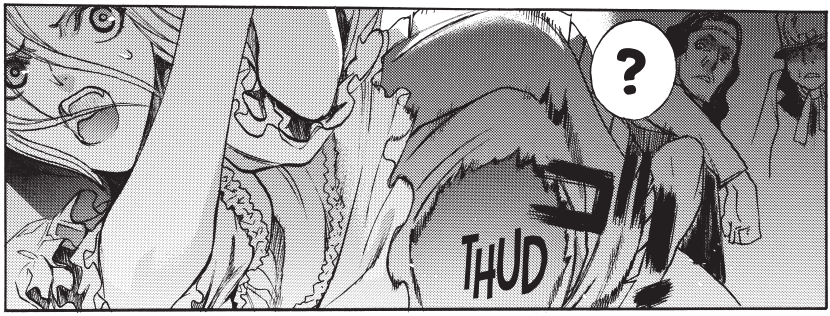
KADUM
KADUM
KADUM
AAAH
!!
FWUP
FWUP
AH...
WH-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?
GRAK

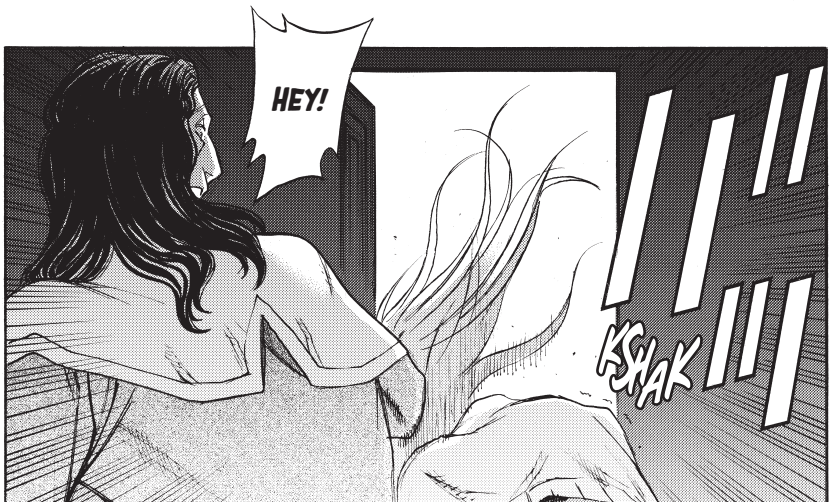

KCHAK
キャッ
OOOOOH!
SHE'S A LITTLE ON THE YOUNG SIDE...BUT QUITE THE LOOKER!!
STOMP
STOMP
GASP

STOMP
HELLO THERE, SHARLE!
THAT IS YOUR NAME, RIGHT?
STOMP
GOTTA LOVE WHAT THE POTTERING NAME CAN ACCOMPLISH! YOU'RE SO USEFUL!
WELL DONE, MICHAEL!!
GRAB
NOW, WE'RE ALL GOING TO PLAY NICE, AREN'T WE?!
KEEP IN MIND, WE'RE IN A DESOLATE BACK ALLEY— NO ONE'S GOING TO HEAR IF YOU START SCREAMING!
TRUST ME, YOU'RE GOING TO ENJOY THIS.
HEH-HEH-HEH!
...!
FWAM
OUCH!

AWW, LOOK AT HER TREMBLE! SHE'S SO SWEET AND DELICATE ...
PATIENCE, DIEDRICH! WAIT UNTIL WE GET THERE!
GET THE CARRIAGE MOVING AGAIN, MICHAEL! TO THE USUAL PLACE!!
R... RIGHT...
DON'T WORRY, MICHAEL.
WE'LL LET YOU HAVE HER AFTER US...LIKE ALWAYS.

GWONK!


?
THUD


HEY!
KSHAK

GET BACK HERE !!!
WE GOTTA STOP HER !!
ZONK

AAAAGH !!
DASH
HRG... AUH...
S-STOP, YOU!
WIBBLE
ひょこ
WIBBLE
ひょこ

HUFF!!
HUFF!!
THAT STUPID BITCH!
WAIT! THAT'S...
NOT SO FAST, SUGAR!
!!
OUT OF THE WAY!!

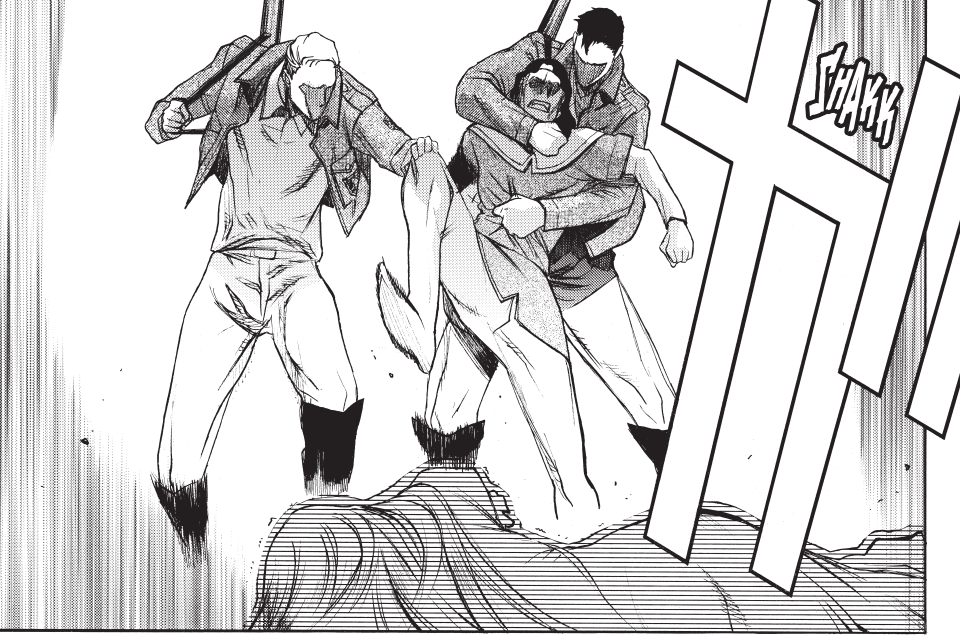
STOP, ALL THREE OF YOU!!
WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE WITH MILITARY POLICE HQ?!

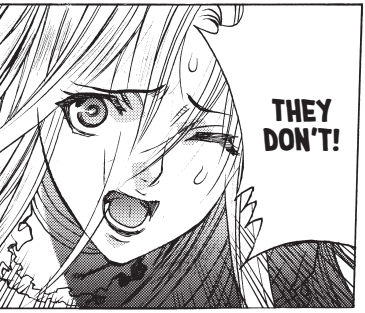
SPEAK NOW, OR BEGONE FROM THIS PLACE!!!
HEY! WAIT UP, LADY SHARLE !!
GEEZ, YOU REALLY GOT CARRIED AWAY!
FWUP

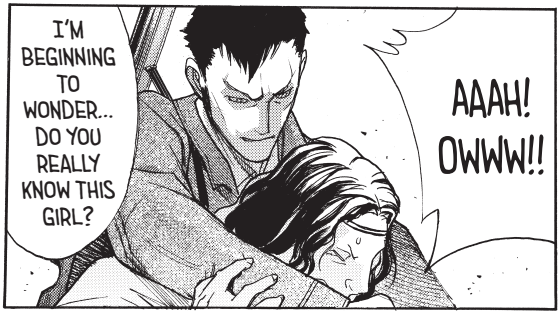
FINALLY! IT TOOK US FOREVER TO CATCH UP TO YOU! COME ON!
LOOK HOW OUT OF BREATH YOU ARE, SILLY GIRL.
IT SURE LOOKS LIKE SHE WAS DESPERATE TO RUN AWAY FROM YOU...
WHAT? NO, OFFICER!
SHE'S OUR BEST FRIEND'S FIANCÉE.
THEY HAD A LITTLE SQUABBLE, YOU SEE—IT'S A PERSONAL THING...
WE TOOK IT UPON OURSELVES TO CHASE AFTER HER.
COME ON, LADY SHARLE. YOU REALLY OUGHT TO SEE SENSE ABOUT THIS.
LISTEN, I'M SURE HE'S SORRY ABOUT WHAT HE SAID...

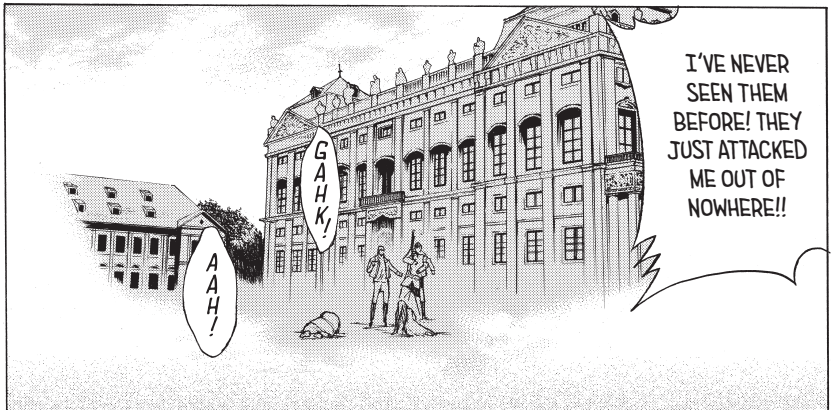
Y-YES, SIR!
HA HA... SORRY ABOUT ALL OF THAT!
DON'T BOTHER US WITH YOUR TRIVIAL NONSENSE! CLEAR OFF!!
...
...!
FFT!
HFF!
HFF!
SWISH
!
GHOMP

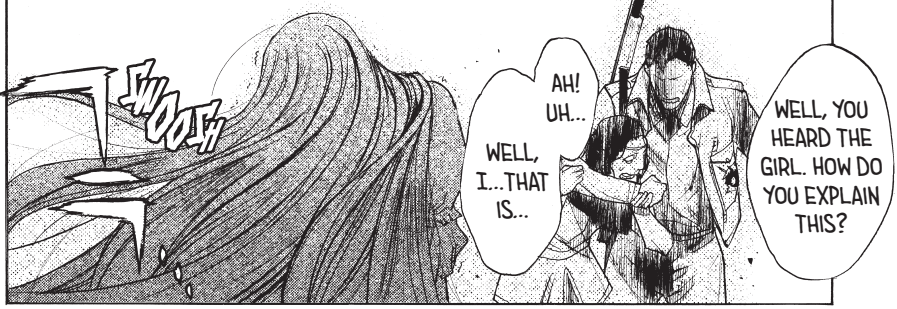
WHY, YOU...
GWUH !!
FWUD
!!
CRAKK
...SAVAGE LITTLE BITCH!!
FWUD
AAAH!
JUST BEHAVE, DAMN YOU!!
ENOUGH WITH THE TROUBLE ALREADY !

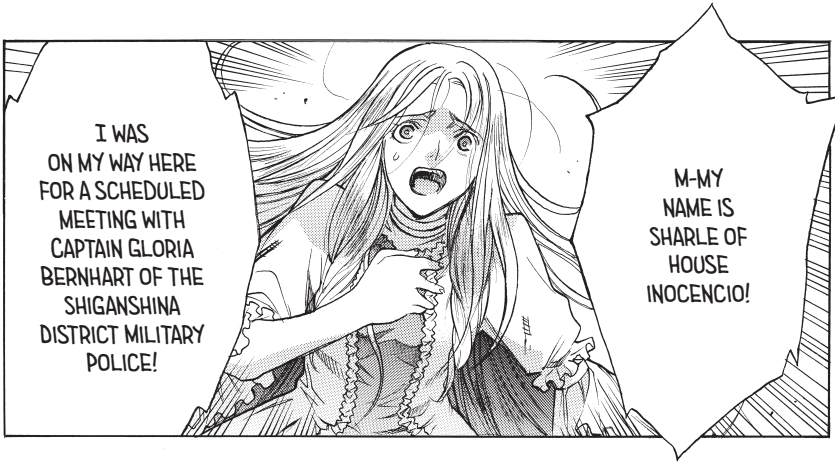

SHAAK

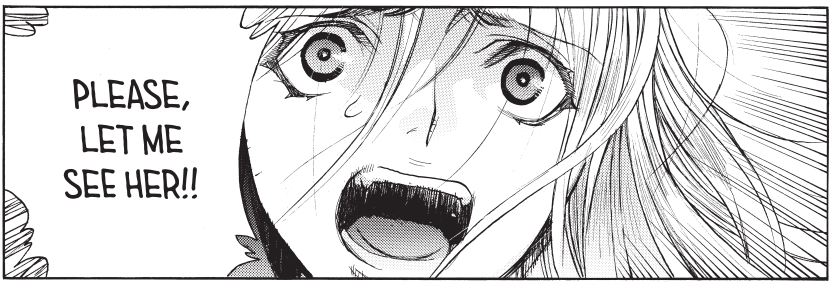

THEY DON'T!


I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER... DO YOU REALLY KNOW THIS GIRL?
AAAH! OWWW!!


I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM BEFORE! THEY JUST ATTACKED ME OUT OF NOWHERE!!
GAHK!
AAH!


WOOSH
AH! UH... WELL, I...THAT IS...
WELL, YOU HEARD THE GIRL. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THIS?

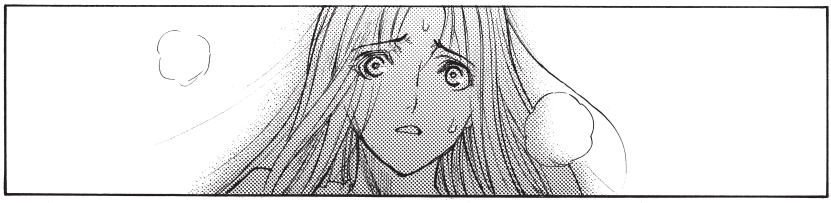

I WAS ON MY WAY HERE FOR A SCHEDULED MEETING WITH CAPTAIN GLORIA BERNHART OF THE SHIGANSHINA DISTRICT MILITARY POLICE!
M-MY NAME IS SHARLE OF HOUSE INOCENCIO!

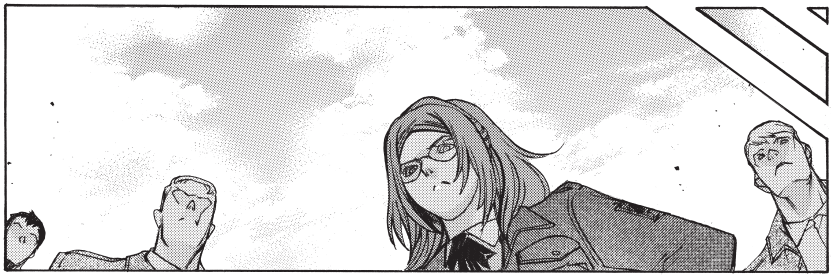

PLEASE, LET ME SEE HER!!

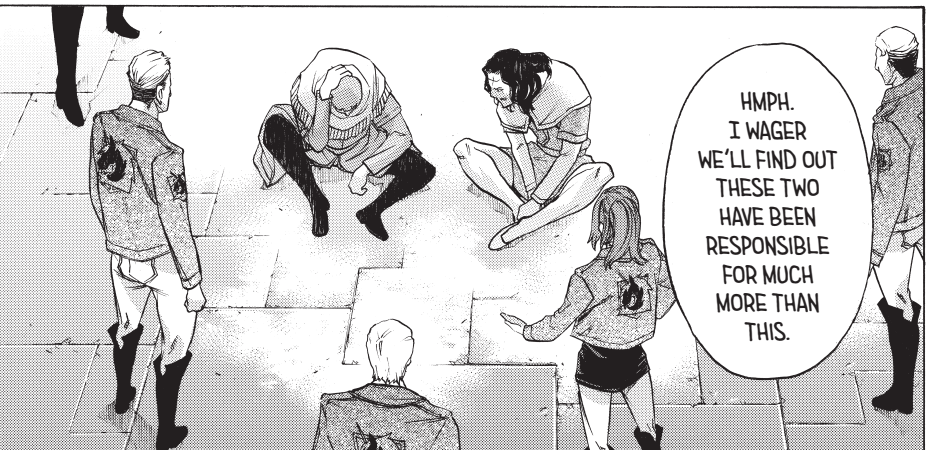
AND MY BROTHER, OFFICER XAVI INOCENCIO, SHOULD BE VISITING AS WELL!
YES, THAT'S HER!

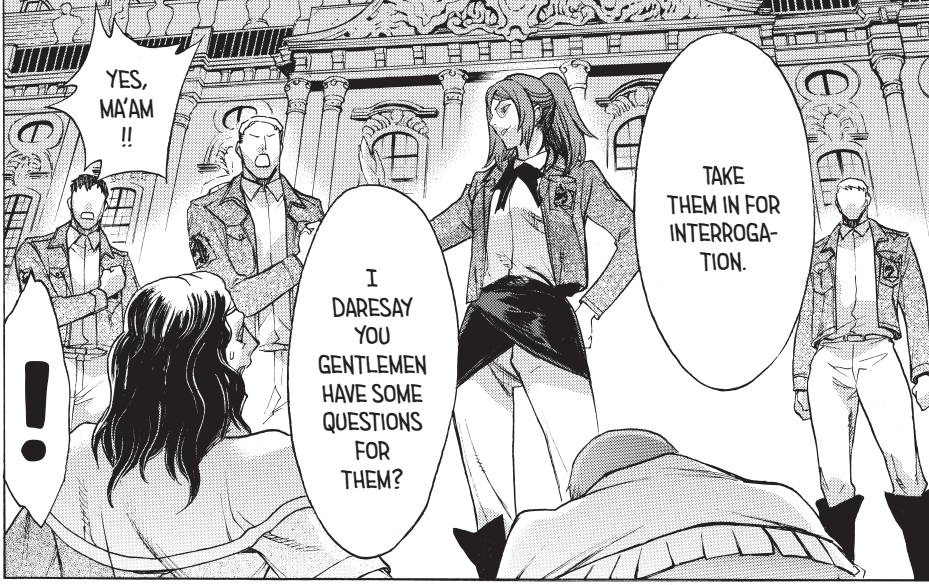
THAT'S THE NIECE OF VICE COMMANDER BERNHART...
CAPTAIN GLORIA FROM SHIGAN-SHINA?

VERY WELL. WE'LL SEND THE MESSAGE BACK INSIDE.

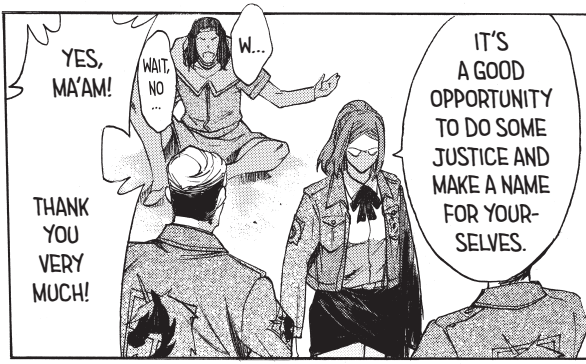


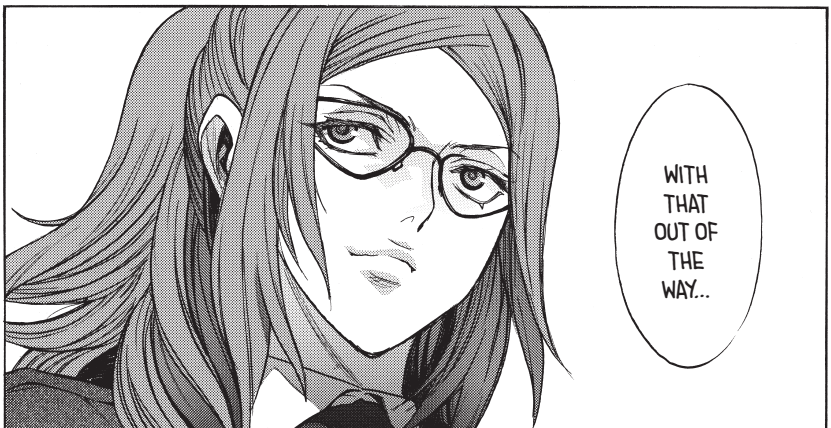


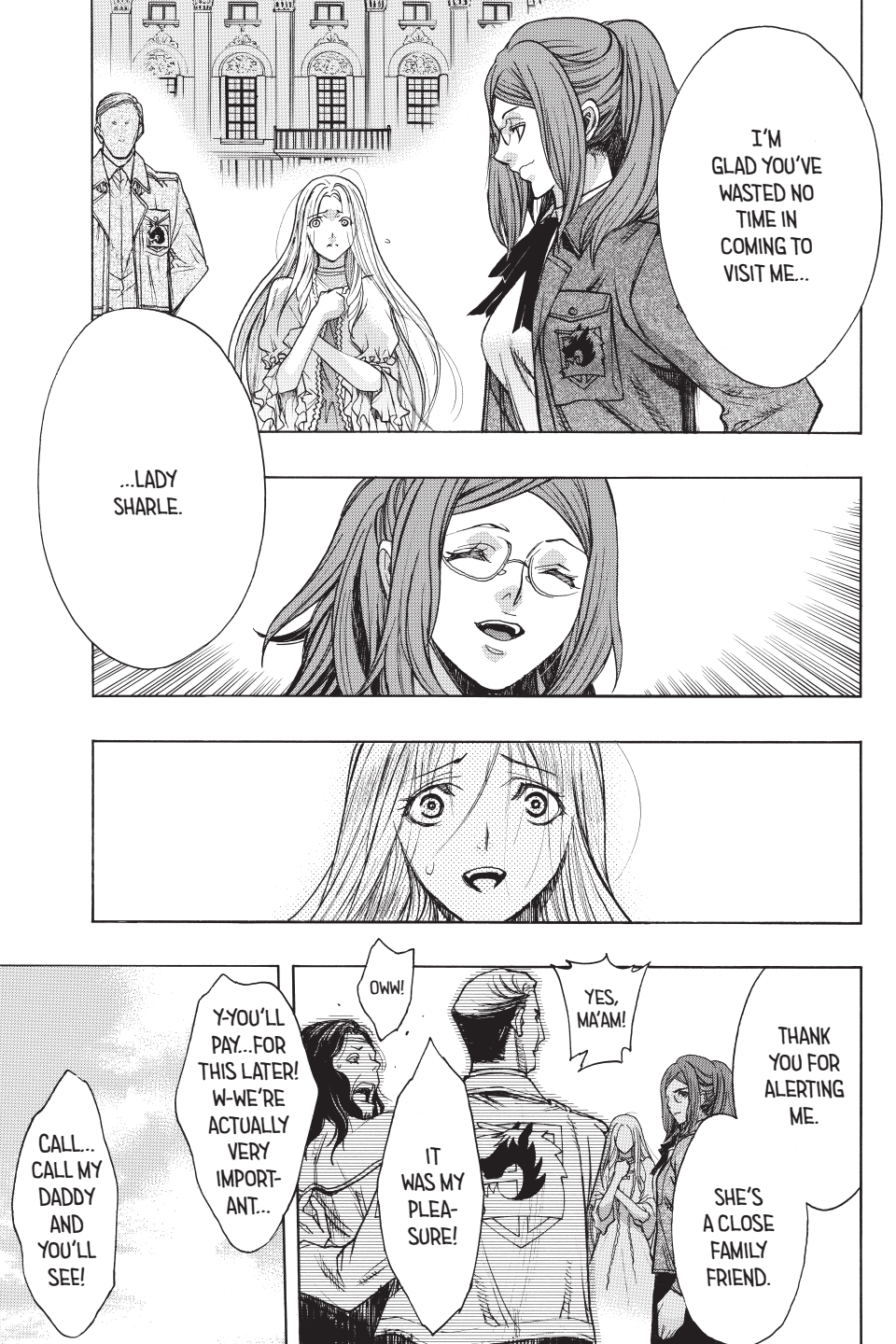

HMPH. I WAGER WE'LL FIND OUT THESE TWO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR MUCH MORE THAN THIS.

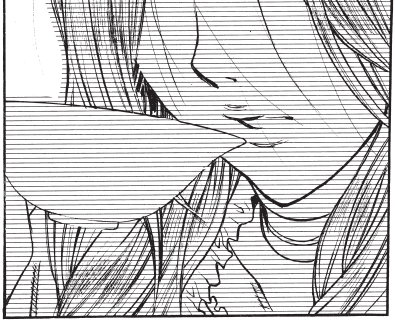

YES, MA'AM !!
!
I DARESAY YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR THEM?
TAKE THEM IN FOR INTERROGATION.

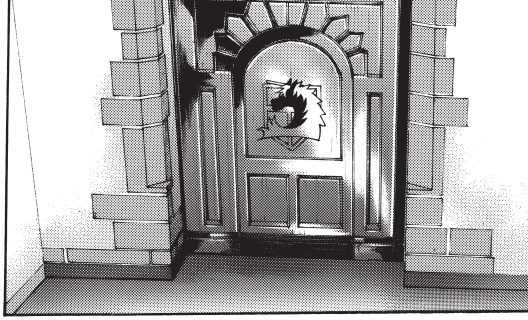
ON YOUR FEET, YOU TWO!
D-DON'T TOUCH ME!
I'M FROM THE NOBLE PECHSTEIN FAMILY ...

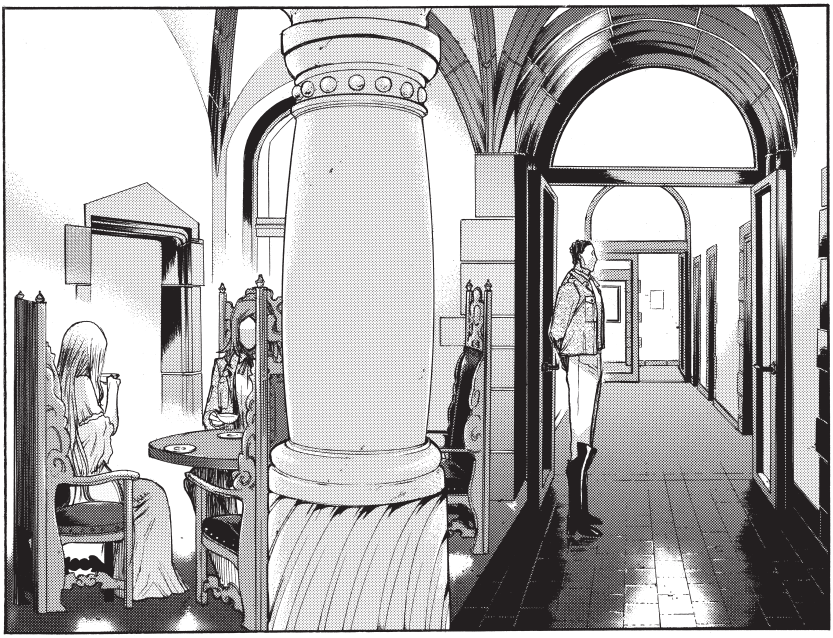

YES, MA'AM!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WAIT, NO ...
W...
IT'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOME JUSTICE AND MAKE A NAME FOR YOURSELVES.


WITH THAT OUT OF THE WAY...

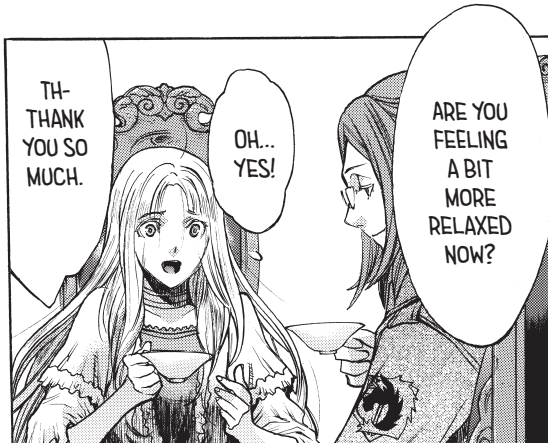

I'M GLAD YOU'VE WASTED NO TIME IN COMING TO VISIT ME...
...LADY SHARLE.
THANK YOU FOR ALERTING ME.
YES, MA'AM!
SHE'S A CLOSE FAMILY FRIEND.
OWW!
IT WAS MY PLEA-SURE!
Y-YOU'LL PAY...FOR THIS LATER! W-WE'RE ACTUALLY VERY IMPORT-ANT...
CALL... CALL MY DADDY AND YOU'LL SEE!

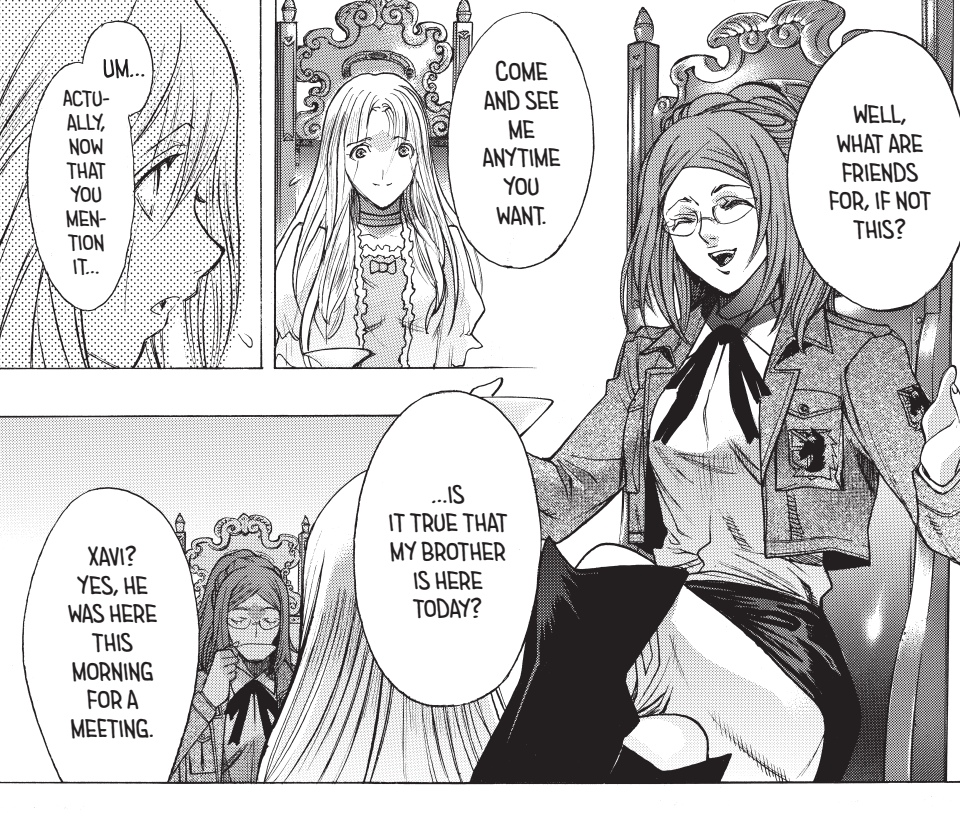


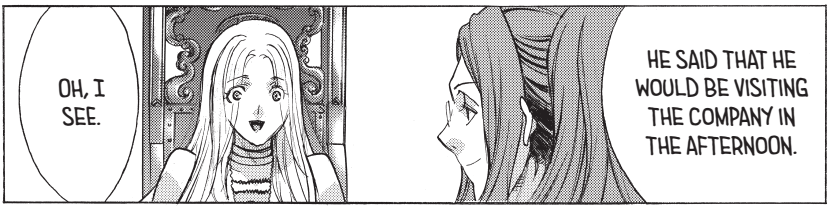


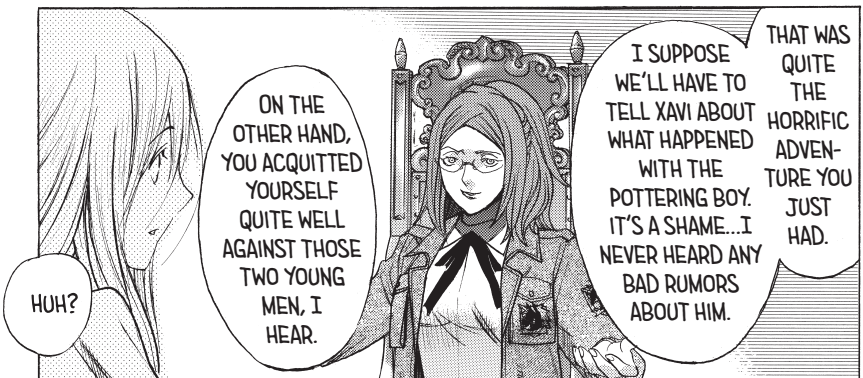


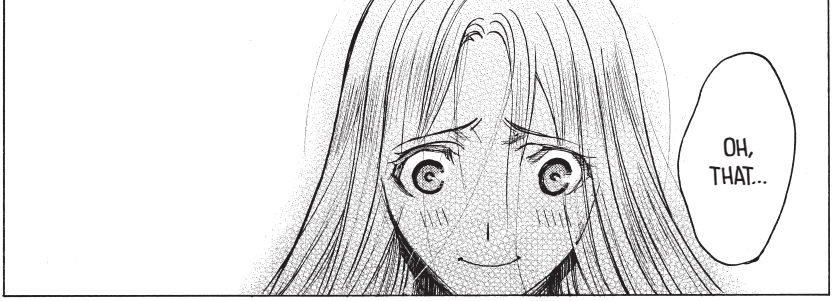
I...I APOLOGIZE FOR USING YOUR NAME AND LYING ABOUT HAVING A MEETING WITH YOU.

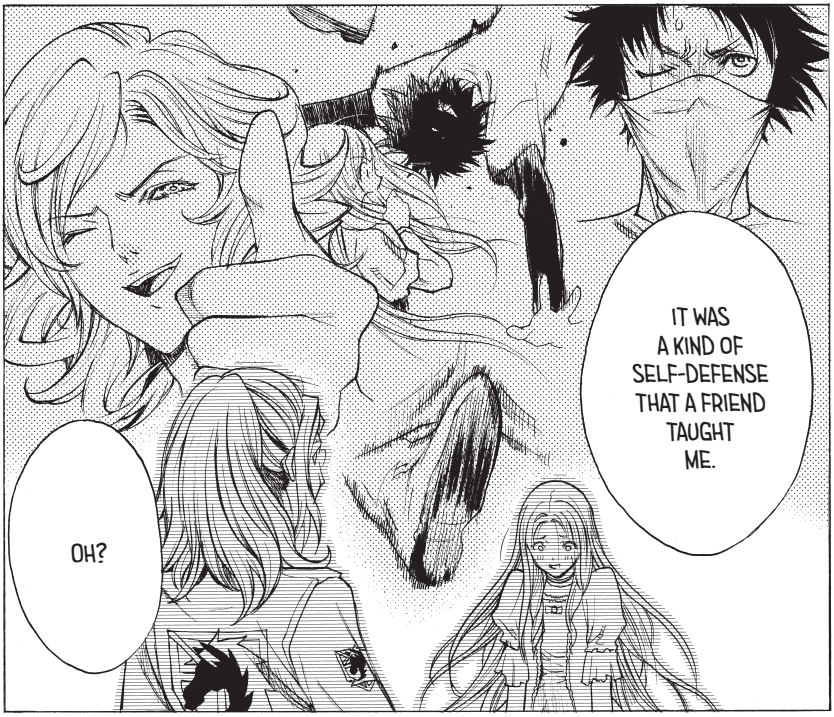

TH-THANK YOU SO MUCH.
OH... YES!
ARE YOU FEELING A BIT MORE RELAXED NOW?

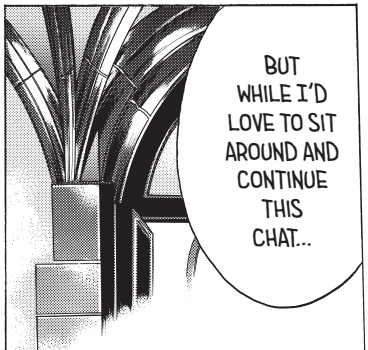

UM... ACTUALLY, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
COME AND SEE ME ANYTIME YOU WANT.
WELL, WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR, IF NOT THIS?
XAVI? YES, HE WAS HERE THIS MORNING FOR A MEETING.
...IS IT TRUE THAT MY BROTHER IS HERE TODAY?

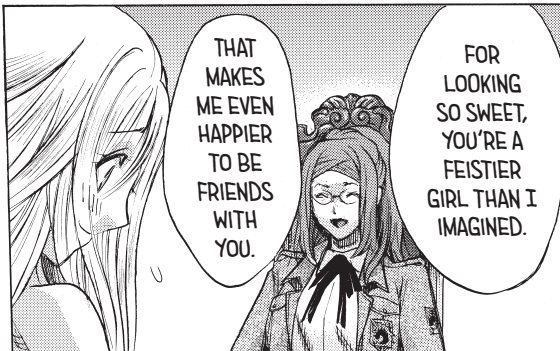

OH, I SEE.
HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE VISITING THE COMPANY IN THE AFTERNOON.

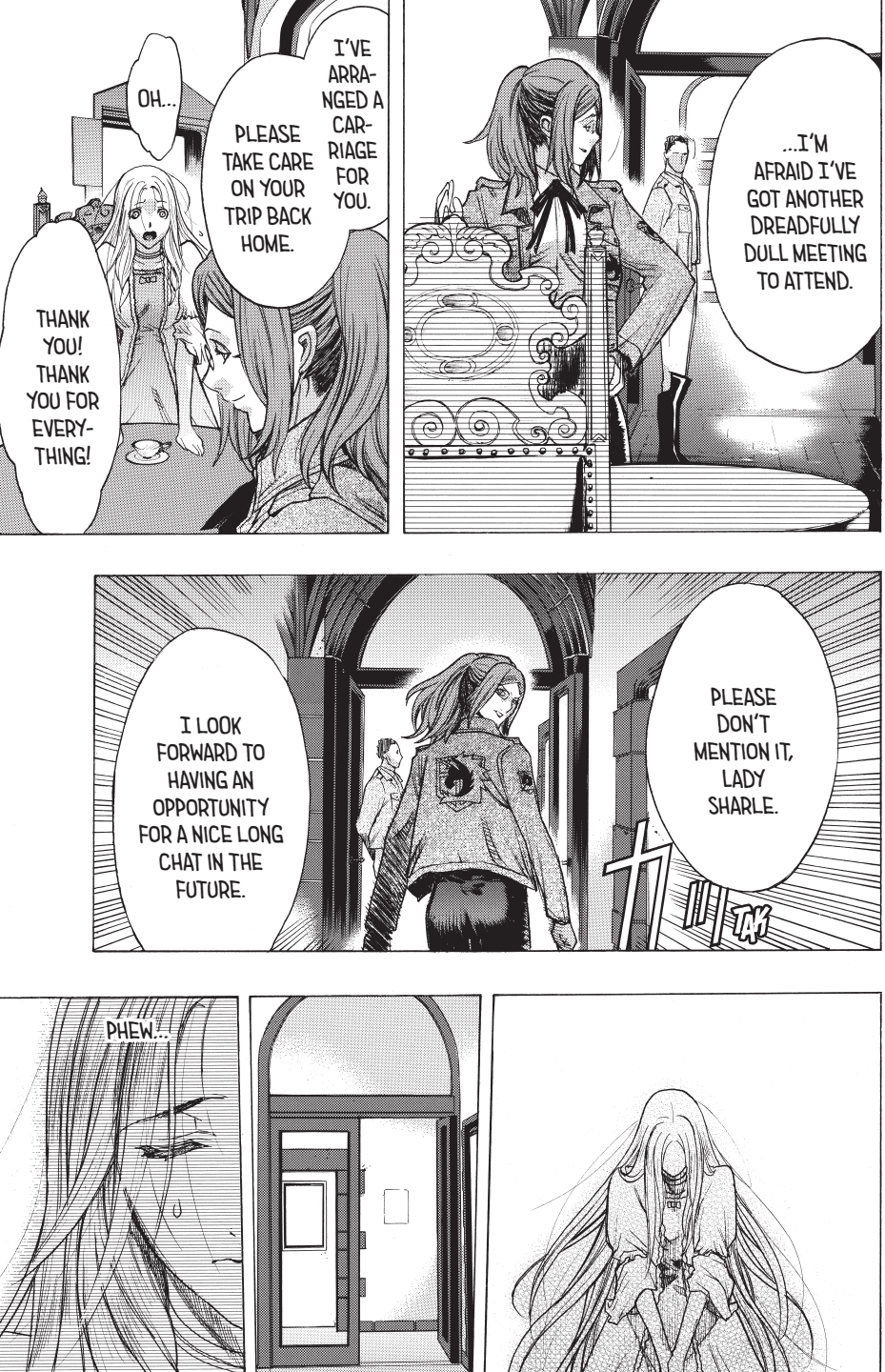

HUH?
ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU ACQUITTED YOURSELF QUITE WELL AGAINST THOSE TWO YOUNG MEN, I HEAR.
I SUPPOSE WE'LL HAVE TO TELL XAVI ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE POTTERING BOY. IT'S A SHAME...I NEVER HEARD ANY BAD RUMORS ABOUT HIM.
THAT WAS QUITE THE HORRIFIC ADVENTURE YOU JUST HAD.

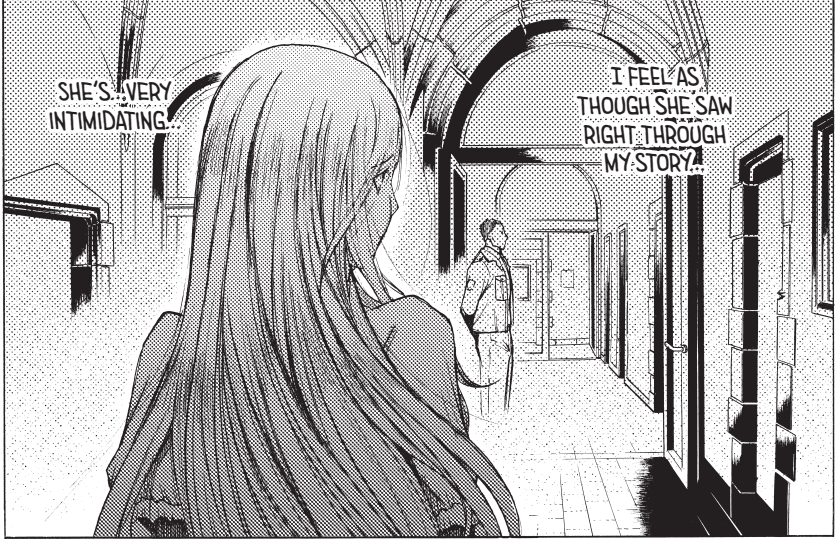

OH, THAT...

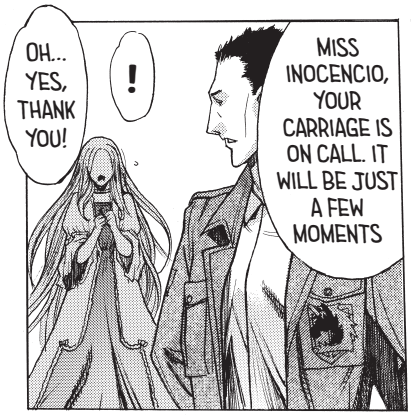

IT WAS A KIND OF SELF-DEFENSE THAT A FRIEND TAUGHT ME.
OH?


BUT WHILE I'D LOVE TO SIT AROUND AND CONTINUE THIS CHAT...

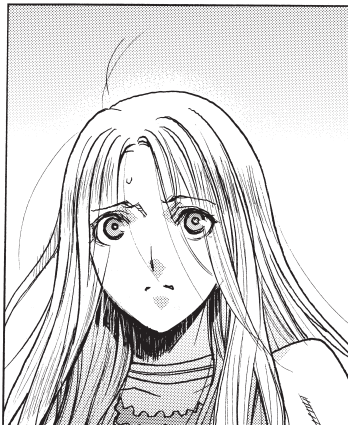

THAT MAKES ME EVEN HAPPIER TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU.
FOR LOOKING SO SWEET, YOU'RE A FEISTIER GIRL THAN I IMAGINED.

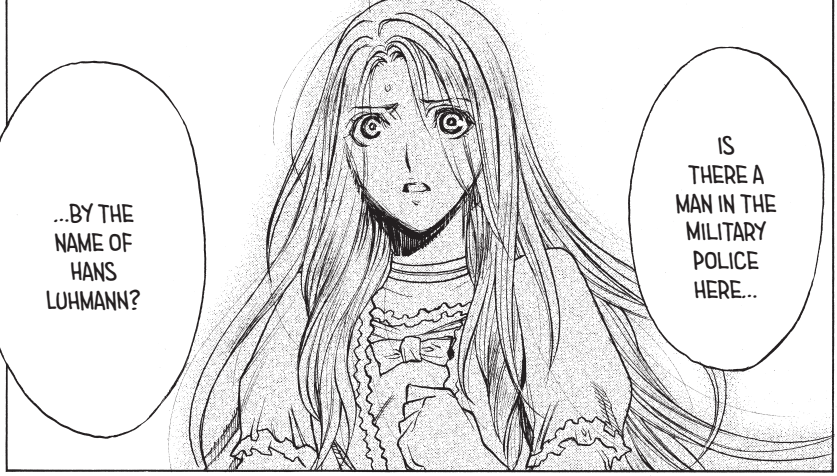

...I'M AFRAID I'VE GOT ANOTHER DREADFULLY DULL MEETING TO ATTEND.
I'VE ARRANGED A CARRIAGE FOR YOU.
PLEASE TAKE CARE ON YOUR TRIP BACK HOME.
OH...
THANK YOU! THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!
PLEASE DON'T MENTION IT, LADY SHARLE.
TAK
I LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A NICE LONG CHAT IN THE FUTURE.
PHEW...


SHE'S...VERY INTIMIDATING...
I FEEL AS THOUGH SHE SAW RIGHT THROUGH MY STORY.

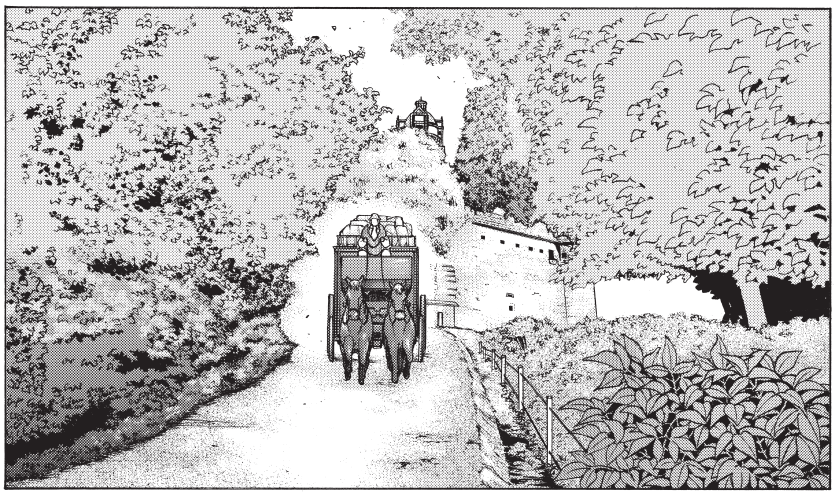

OH... YES, THANK YOU!
!
MISS INOCENCIO, YOUR CARRIAGE IS ON CALL. IT WILL BE JUST A FEW MOMENTS

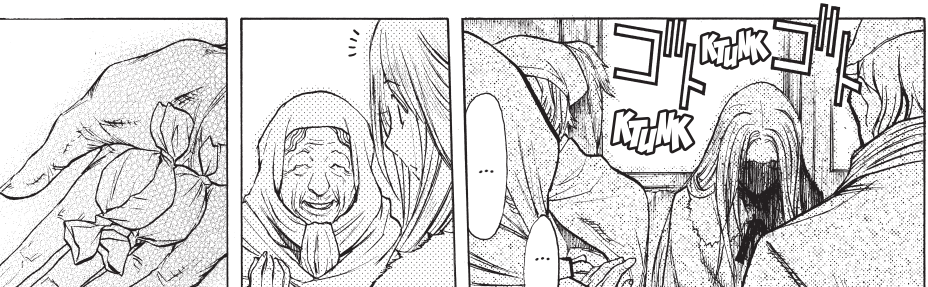
PARDON ME...

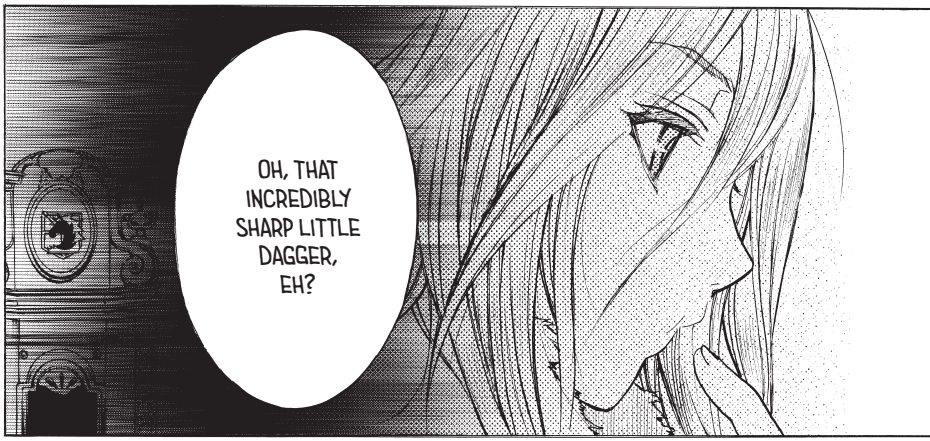


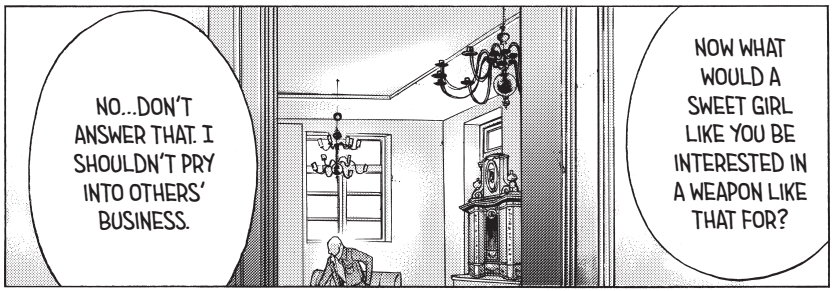

IS THERE A MAN IN THE MILITARY POLICE HERE...
...BY THE NAME OF HANS LUHMANN?

RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

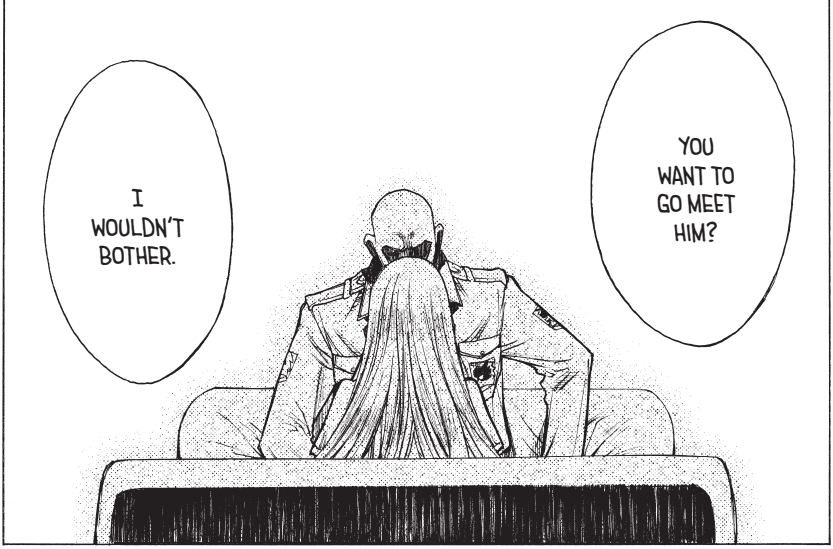


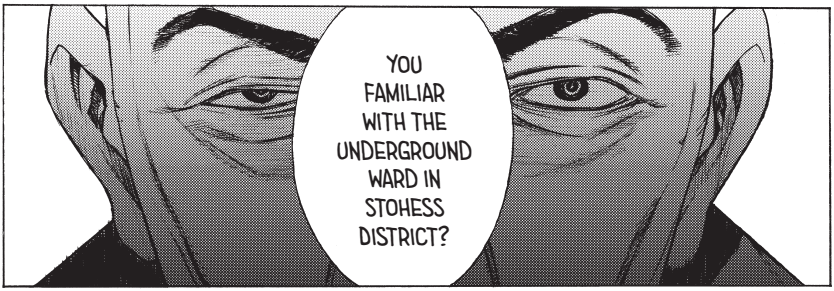

...
...
KTUNK
KTUNK

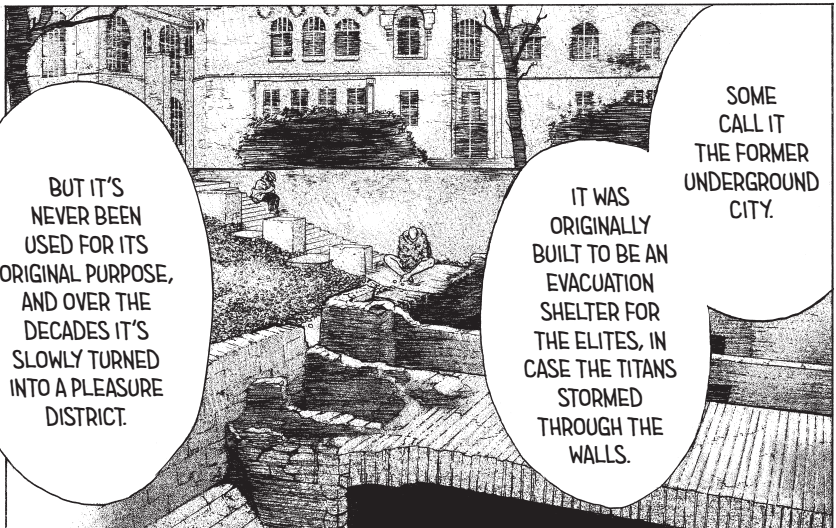

OH, THAT INCREDIBLY SHARP LITTLE DAGGER, EH?

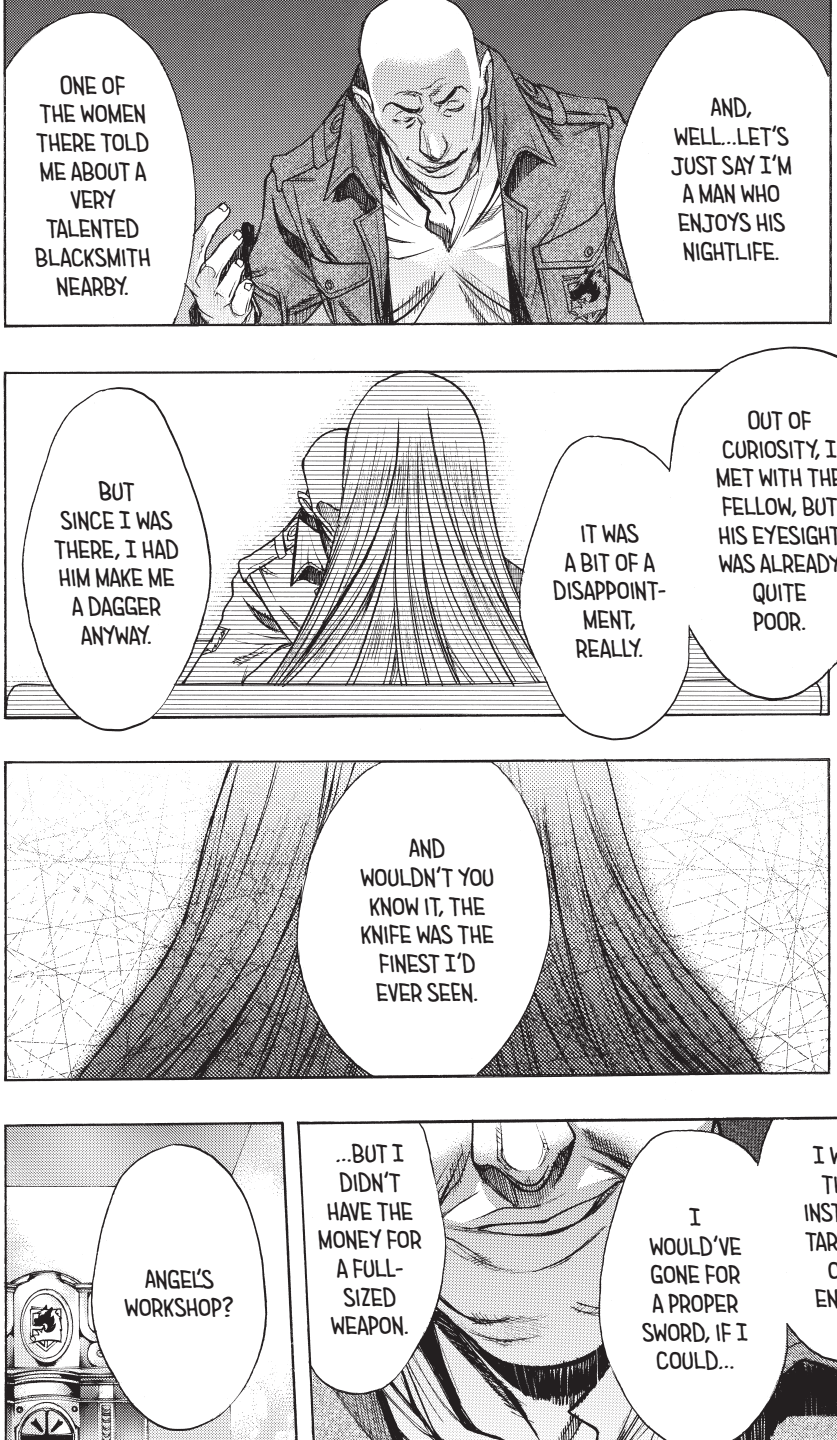

NO...DON'T ANSWER THAT. I SHOULDN'T PRY INTO OTHERS' BUSINESS.
NOW WHAT WOULD A SWEET GIRL LIKE YOU BE INTERESTED IN A WEAPON LIKE THAT FOR?

I DON'T KNOW THE LAST NAME. MIGHT NOT HAVE EVEN BEEN HIS REAL NAME TO BEGIN WITH.
THAT DAGGER WAS CRAFTED BY A BLACK-SMITH NAMED ANGEL.


I WOULDN'T BOTHER.
YOU WANT TO GO MEET HIM?

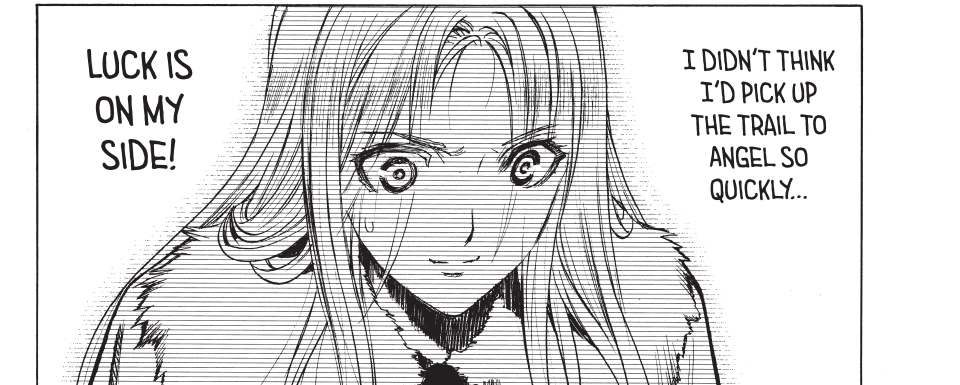

YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE UNDERGROUND WARD IN STOHESS DISTRICT?

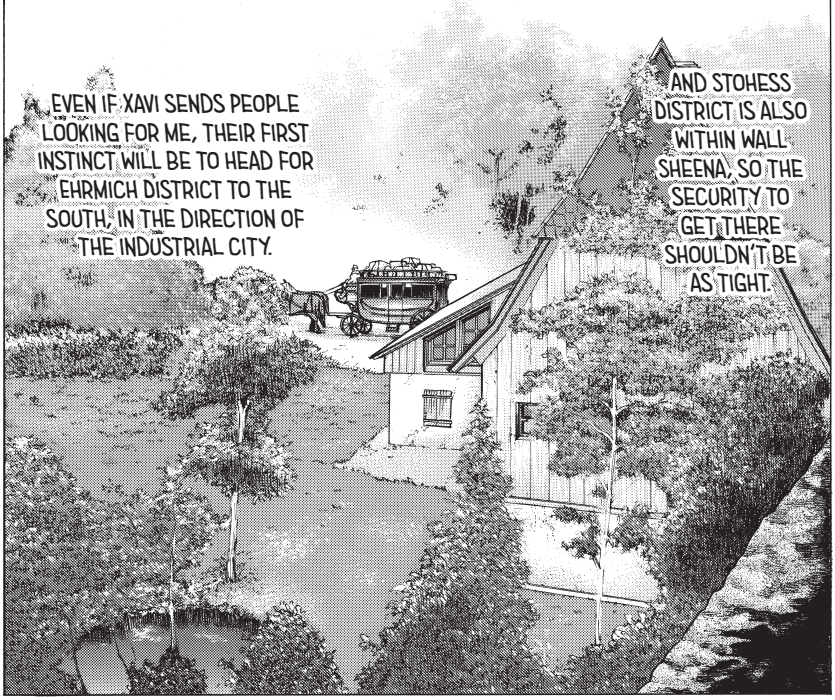

BUT IT'S NEVER BEEN USED FOR ITS ORIGINAL PURPOSE, AND OVER THE DECADES IT'S SLOWLY TURNED INTO A PLEASURE DISTRICT.
IT WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT TO BE AN EVACUATION SHELTER FOR THE ELITES, IN CASE THE TITANS STORMED THROUGH THE WALLS.
SOME CALL IT THE FORMER UNDERGROUND CITY.

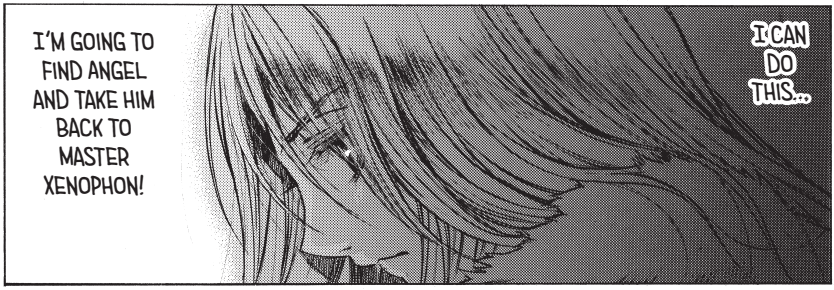

ONE OF THE WOMEN THERE TOLD ME ABOUT A VERY TALENTED BLACKSMITH NEARBY.
AND, WELL...LET'S JUST SAY I'M A MAN WHO ENJOYS HIS NIGHTLIFE.
BUT SINCE I WAS THERE, I HAD HIM MAKE ME A DAGGER ANYWAY.
IT WAS A BIT OF A DISAPPOINT-MENT, REALLY.
OUT OF CURIOSITY, I MET WITH THE FELLOW, BUT HIS EYESIGHT WAS ALREADY QUITE POOR.
AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT, THE KNIFE WAS THE FINEST I'D EVER SEEN.
ANGEL'S WORKSHOP?
...BUT I DIDN'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR A FULL-SIZED WEAPON.
I WOULD'VE GONE FOR A PROPER SWORD, IF I COULD...
I WAS THE INSTANT TARGET OF ENVY.

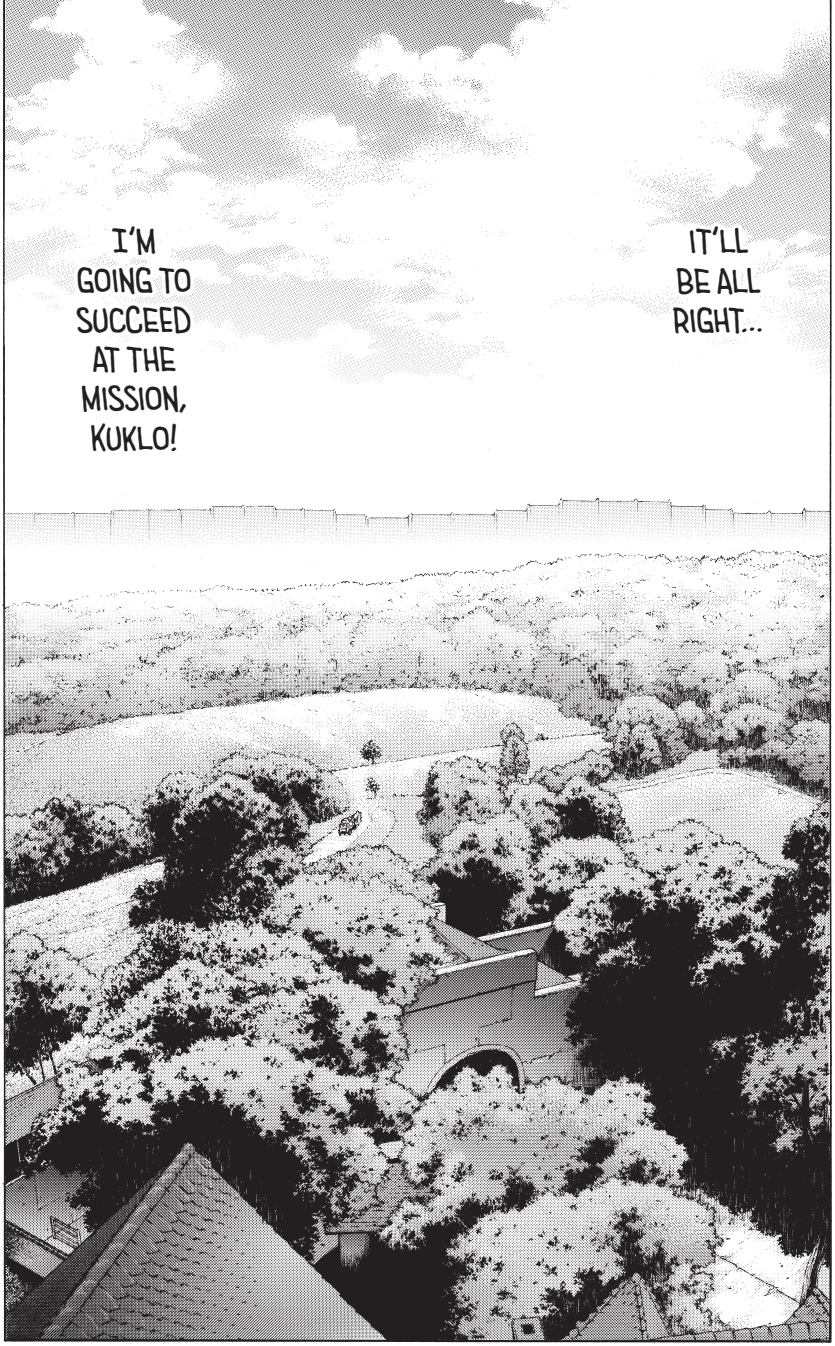
IT WAS PRACTICALLY IN THE VERY BACK OF THE UNDERGROUND WARD.
AND THE WORD "WORKSHOP" WAS TOO FINE TO DESCRIBE IT. IT WASN'T MUCH BUT A SHACK WITH A FURNACE AND NOTHING ELSE.
BUT I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO RAIN TO CONTEND WITH UNDERGROUND. HA HA!
WHAT? HOW TO GET THERE?
WHY WOULD YOU ASK ME THAT?
I DESCRIBED IT AS A "PLEASURE DISTRICT" EARLIER, BUT THAT'S NOT ALL...
WHAT DID I JUST TELL YOU? IT'S NOT THE KIND OF PLACE A YOUNG LADY TRAVELS TO ALONE.
GAMBLING, SMUGGLING, STOLEN GOODS...
...SLAVE MARKETS, KILLERS FOR HIRE...
EVERY KIND OF CRIMINAL AND IMMORAL ACT THAT MAN CAN CONCEIVE OF TAKES PLACE THERE. IT'S A LAWLESS TOWN.

TAKE MY ADVICE: WHATEVER BUSINESS MIGHT SEND YOU THERE, FORGET ABOUT IT.
KTUNK
KTUNK
KTUNK
KTUNK


I DIDN'T THINK I'D PICK UP THE TRAIL TO ANGEL SO QUICKLY...
LUCK IS ON MY SIDE!


EVEN IF XAVI SENDS PEOPLE LOOKING FOR ME, THEIR FIRST INSTINCT WILL BE TO HEAD FOR EHRMICH DISTRICT TO THE SOUTH, IN THE DIRECTION OF THE INDUSTRIAL CITY.
AND STOHESS DISTRICT IS ALSO WITHIN WALL SHEENA, SO THE SECURITY TO GET THERE SHOULDN'T BE AS TIGHT.

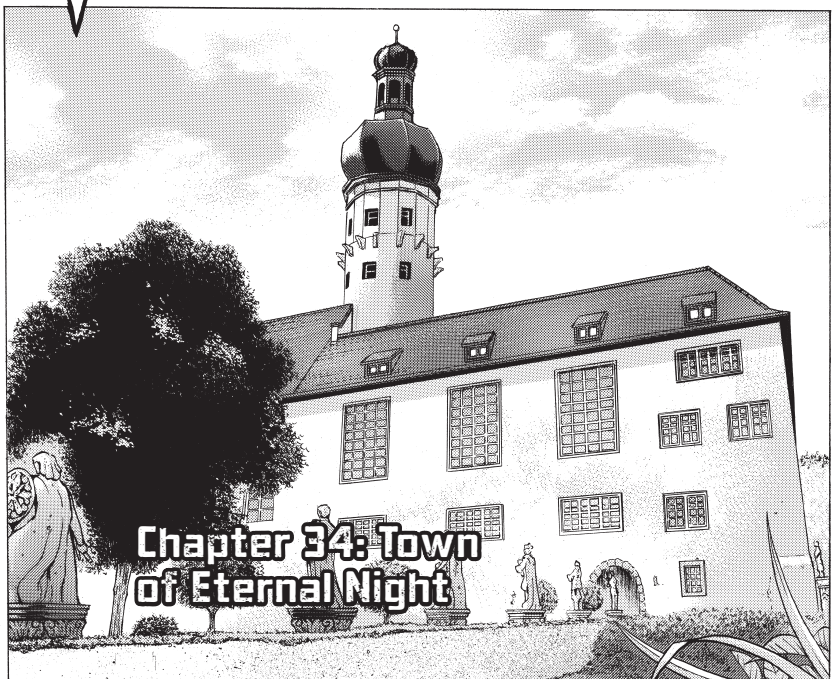

I'M GOING TO FIND ANGEL AND TAKE HIM BACK TO MASTER XENOPHON!
I CAN DO THIS...

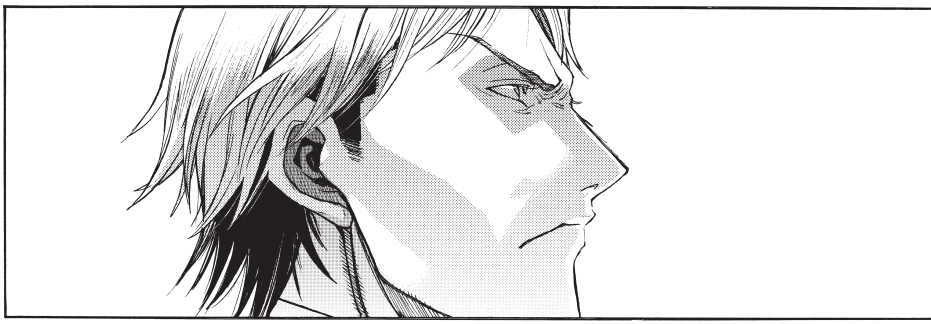

I'M GOING TO SUCCEED AT THE MISSION, KUKLO!
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...

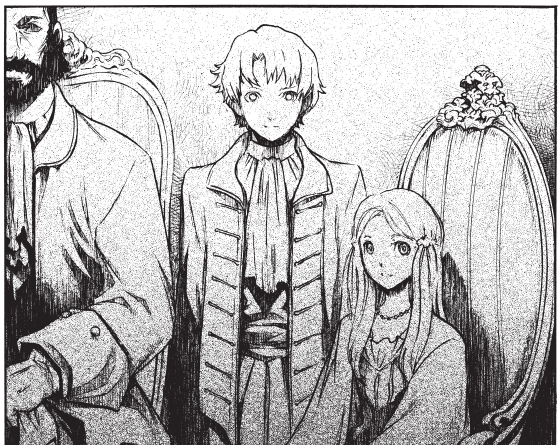
Chapter 33: The Imprisoned Princess Flees · End

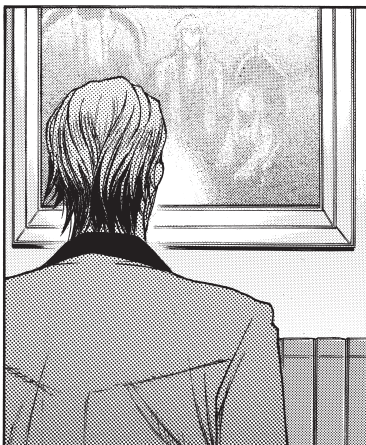
ATTACK
ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL

I AM VERY SORRY...
...ABOUT THIS FAILURE! ALL FAULT LIES WITH ME!
TAP
TAP
TAP


Chapter 34: Town of Eternal Night



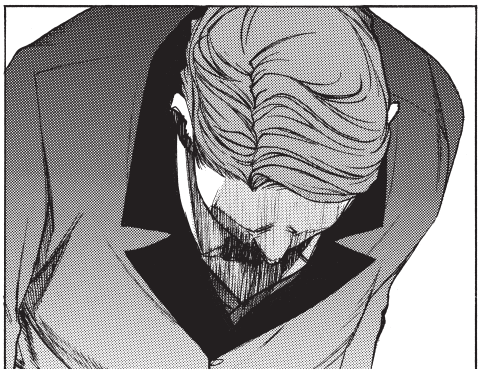


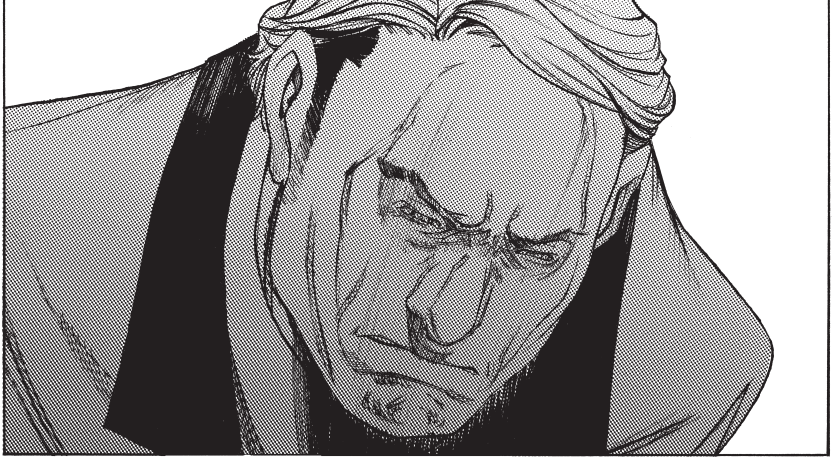


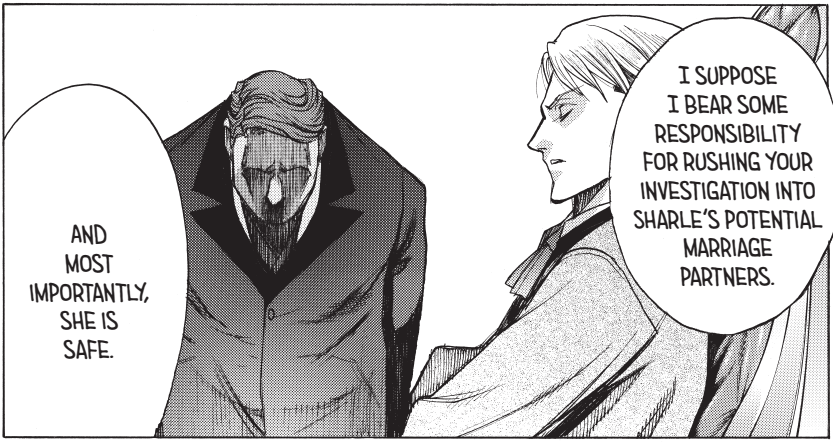
RIXNER.
THIS FAILURE IS UNCHARACTERISTIC OF YOU.
MY LORD!
THAT LITTLE POTTERING BRAT!
HE SEEMED WEAK-WILLED TO ME, BUT NOT TO THE POINT THAT HE COULD BE TWISTED INTO ARRANGING WOMEN FOR NOBLE RUFFIANS!

KRK
"HONEST AND EARNEST," INDEED!

CHIN UP, RIXNER.



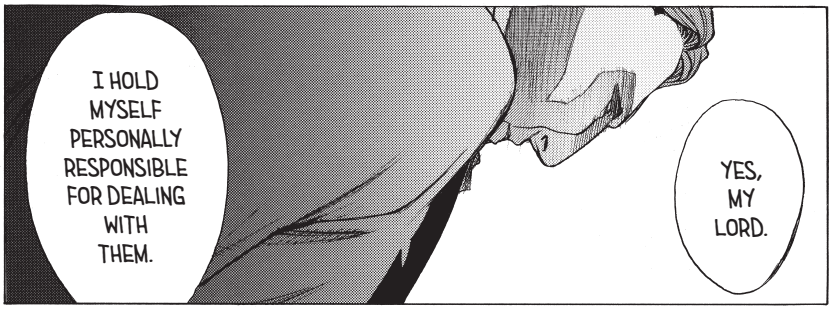


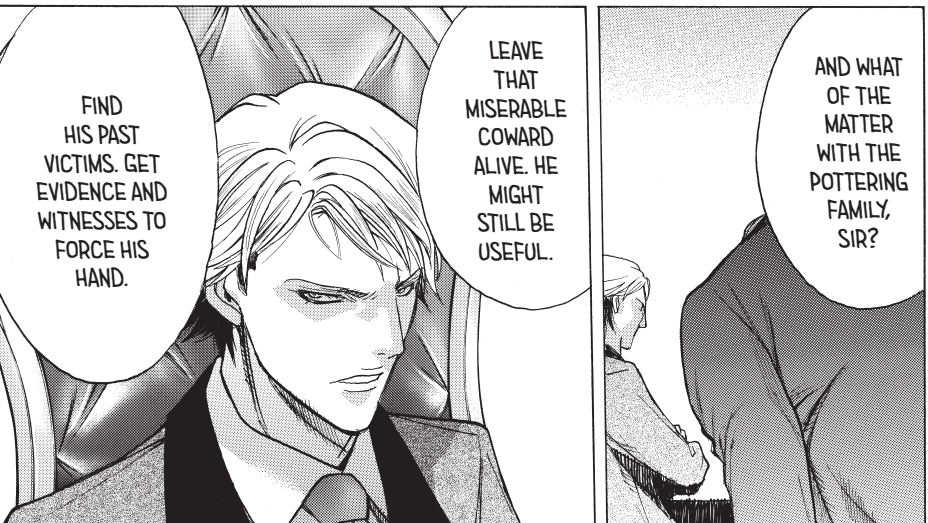

I SUPPOSE I BEAR SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR RUSHING YOUR INVESTIGATION INTO SHARLE'S POTENTIAL MARRIAGE PARTNERS.
AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, SHE IS SAFE.

I AM HONORED AND HUMBLED TO HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE, MY LORD!

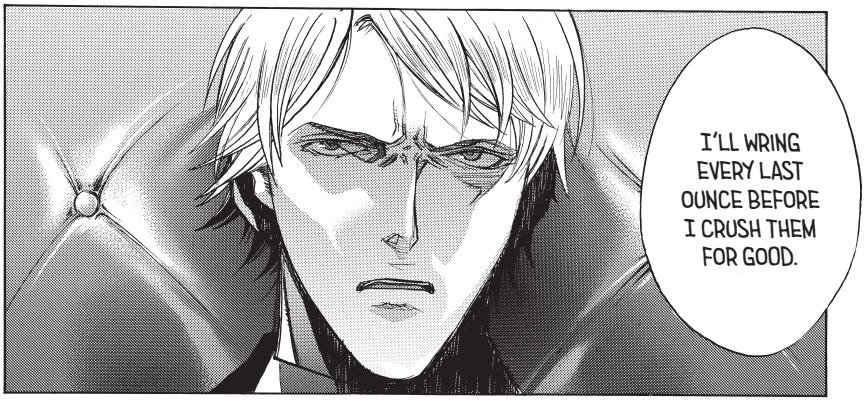
FWUP
I URGE YOU TO MAKE UP FOR YOUR FAILURE WITH HARD WORK.

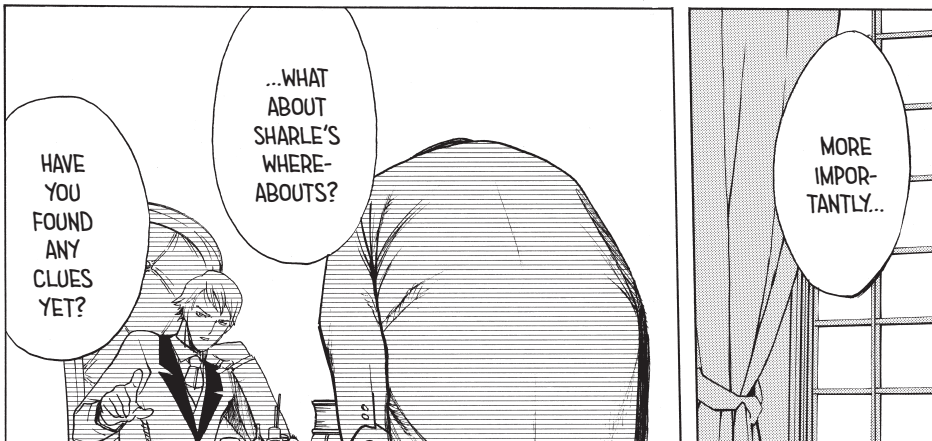
THE MILITARY POLICE SHOULD BE RELEASING THE PECHSTEIN AND HAPPMAN BOYS SOON.
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

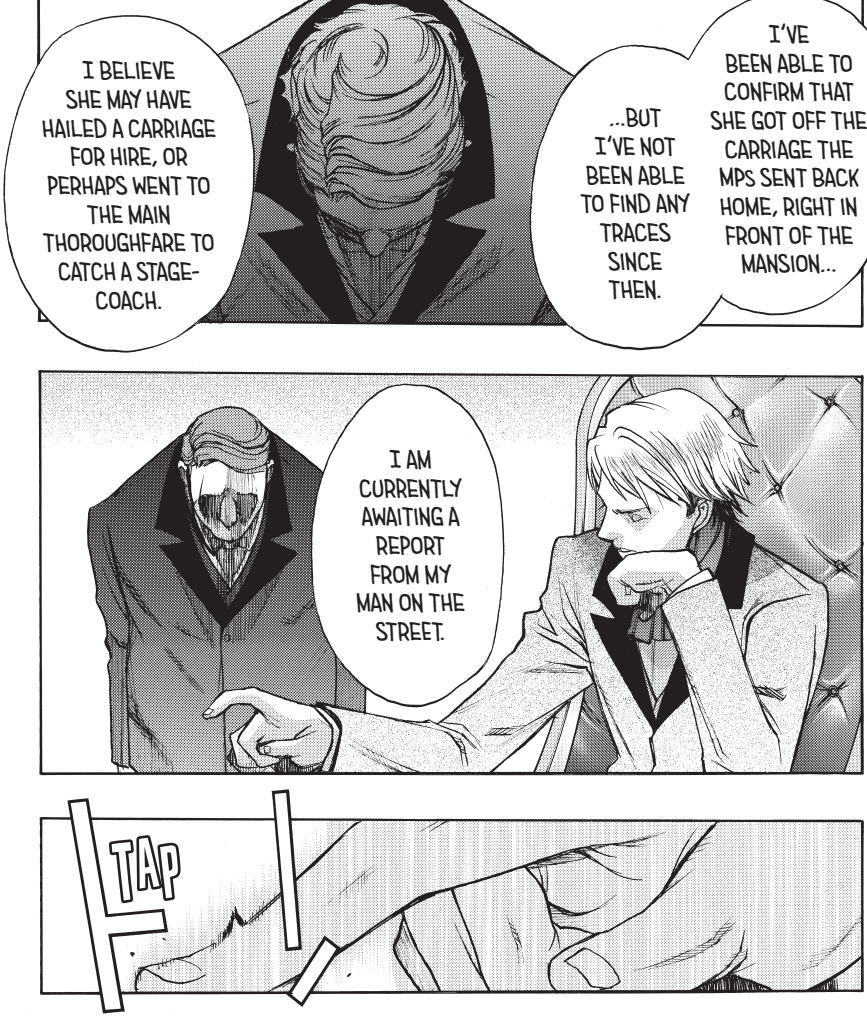

YES, MY LORD.
I HOLD MYSELF PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR DEALING WITH THEM.


AND WHAT OF THE MATTER WITH THE POTTERING FAMILY, SIR?
LEAVE THAT MISERABLE COWARD ALIVE. HE MIGHT STILL BE USEFUL.
FIND HIS PAST VICTIMS. GET EVIDENCE AND WITNESSES TO FORCE HIS HAND.

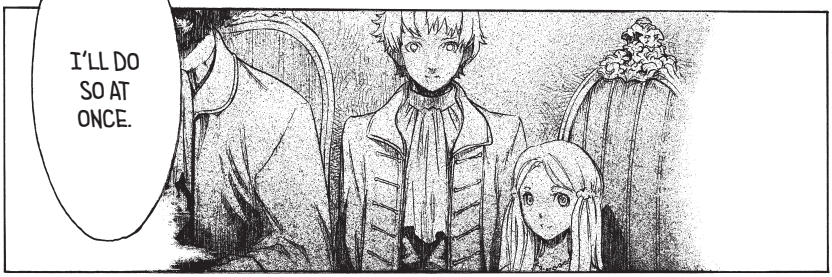
THIS MEANS THE POTTERINGS OWE ME A GREAT DEAL.
SHARLE WILL NOT BE MARRYING HIM, OF COURSE.

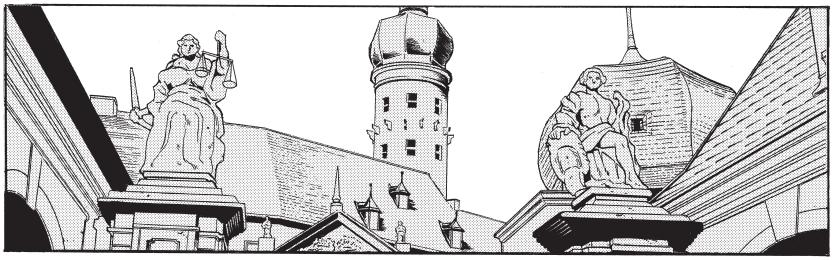

I'LL WRING EVERY LAST OUNCE BEFORE I CRUSH THEM FOR GOOD.

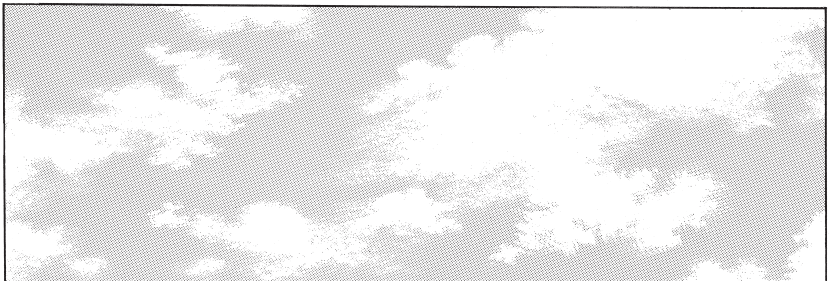

HAVE YOU FOUND ANY CLUES YET?
...WHAT ABOUT SHARLE'S WHERE-ABOUTS?
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...

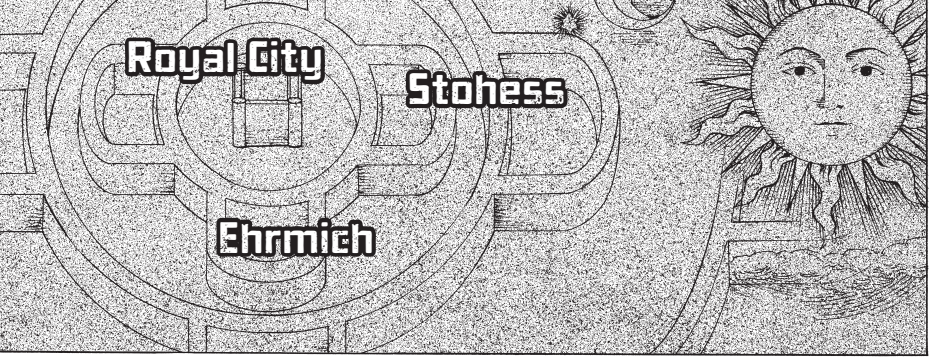

I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM THAT SHE GOT OFF THE CARRIAGE THE MPS SENT BACK HOME, RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE MANSION...
...BUT I'VE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY TRACES SINCE THEN.
I BELIEVE SHE MAY HAVE HAILED A CARRIAGE FOR HIRE, OR PERHAPS WENT TO THE MAIN THOROUGHFARE TO CATCH A STAGE-COACH.
I AM CURRENTLY AWAITING A REPORT FROM MY MAN ON THE STREET.
TAP
...AHHH...
WELL, I WOULD ASSUME THAT SHE'S HEADING FOR EITHER THE INDUSTRIAL CITY, OR SHIGAN-SHINA...

JUST IN CASE, INCLUDE ANY CARRIAGES GOING TO STOHESS AND YARCKEL DISTRICTS IN YOUR SEARCH.
YES, MY LORD.


I'LL DO SO AT ONCE.



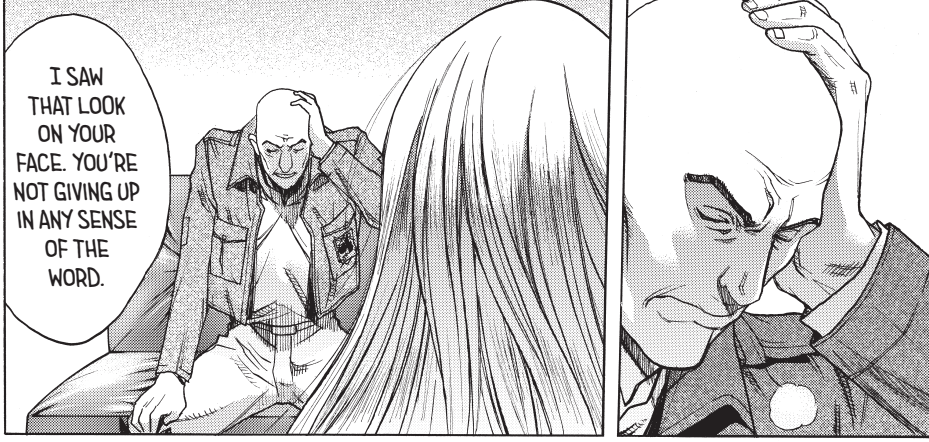


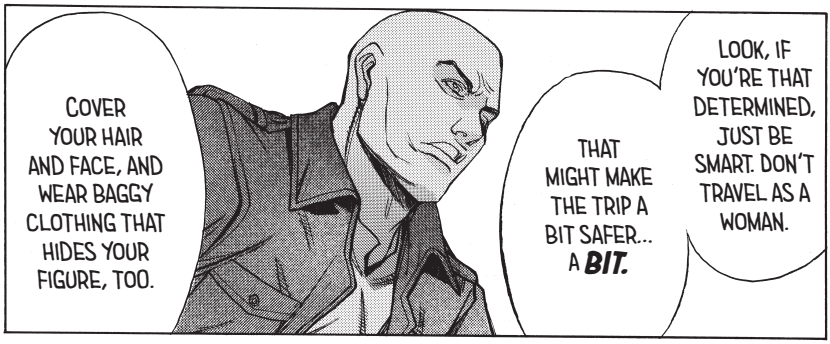

Royal City
Stohess
Ehrmich

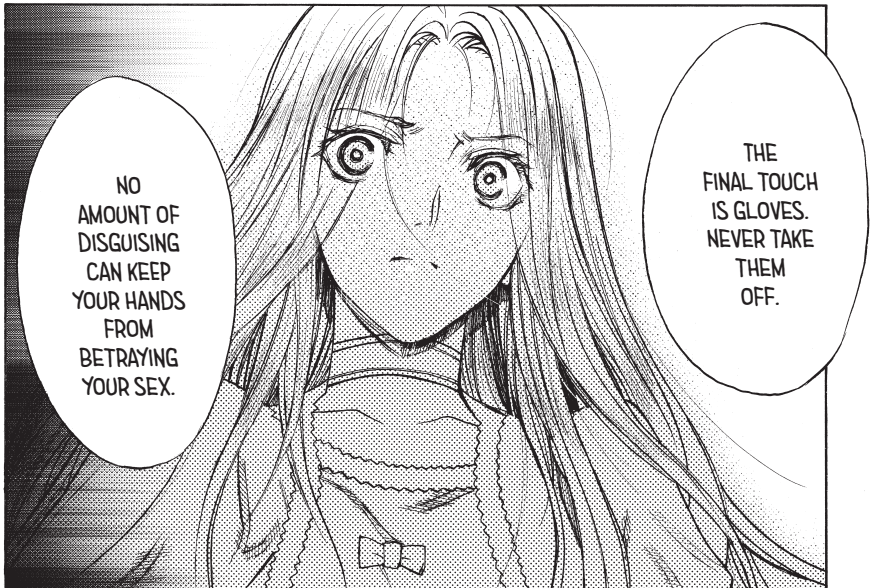
Stohess District

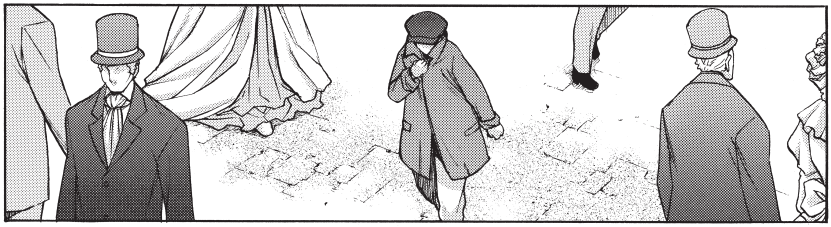
PHEW...
I HOPE THIS IS WORKING... CAN ANYONE TELL THAT I'M A GIRL?
TAKE MY ADVICE: WHATEVER BUSINESS MIGHT SEND YOU THERE, FORGET ABOUT IT.

I'LL BE GOING NOW.
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE TOLD ME TODAY, HANS.
HANG ON.
TOK


I SAW THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE. YOU'RE NOT GIVING UP IN ANY SENSE OF THE WORD.


LOOK, IF YOU'RE THAT DETERMINED, JUST BE SMART. DON'T TRAVEL AS A WOMAN.
THAT MIGHT MAKE THE TRIP A BIT SAFER... A *BIT.*
COVER YOUR HAIR AND FACE, AND WEAR BAGGY CLOTHING THAT HIDES YOUR FIGURE, TOO.

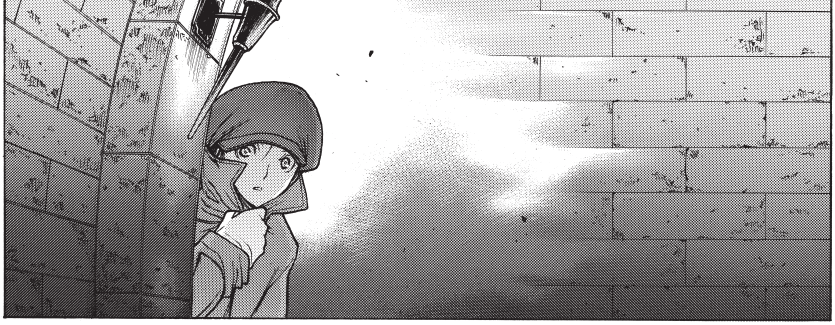

THE FINAL TOUCH IS GLOVES. NEVER TAKE THEM OFF.
NO AMOUNT OF DISGUISING CAN KEEP YOUR HANDS FROM BETRAYING YOUR SEX.

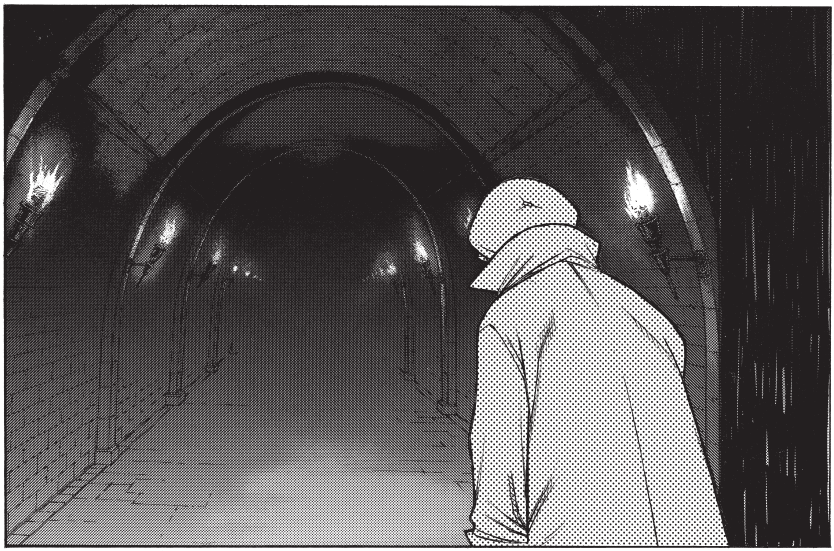


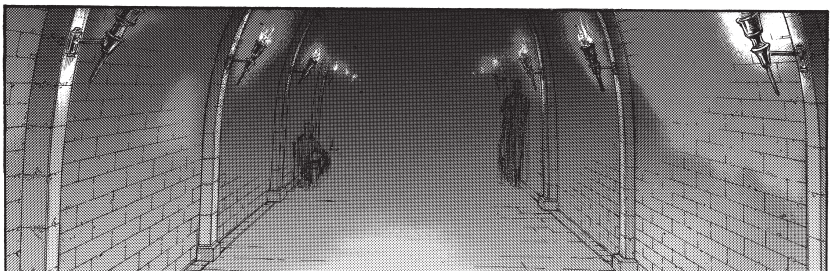
...AH...

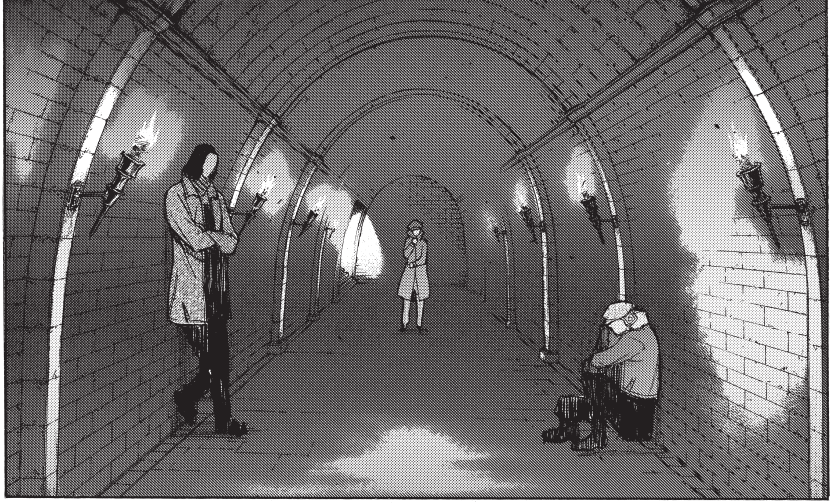
THIS IS IT...

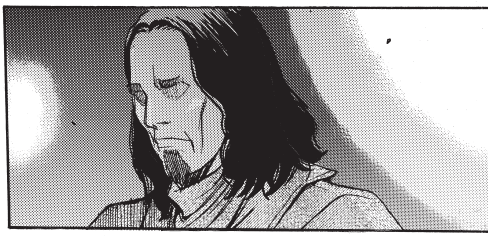
IT'S WHAT HANS TOLD ME ABOUT... THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDERGROUND...
SWISH
TOKk

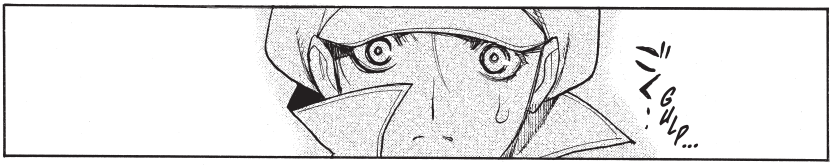




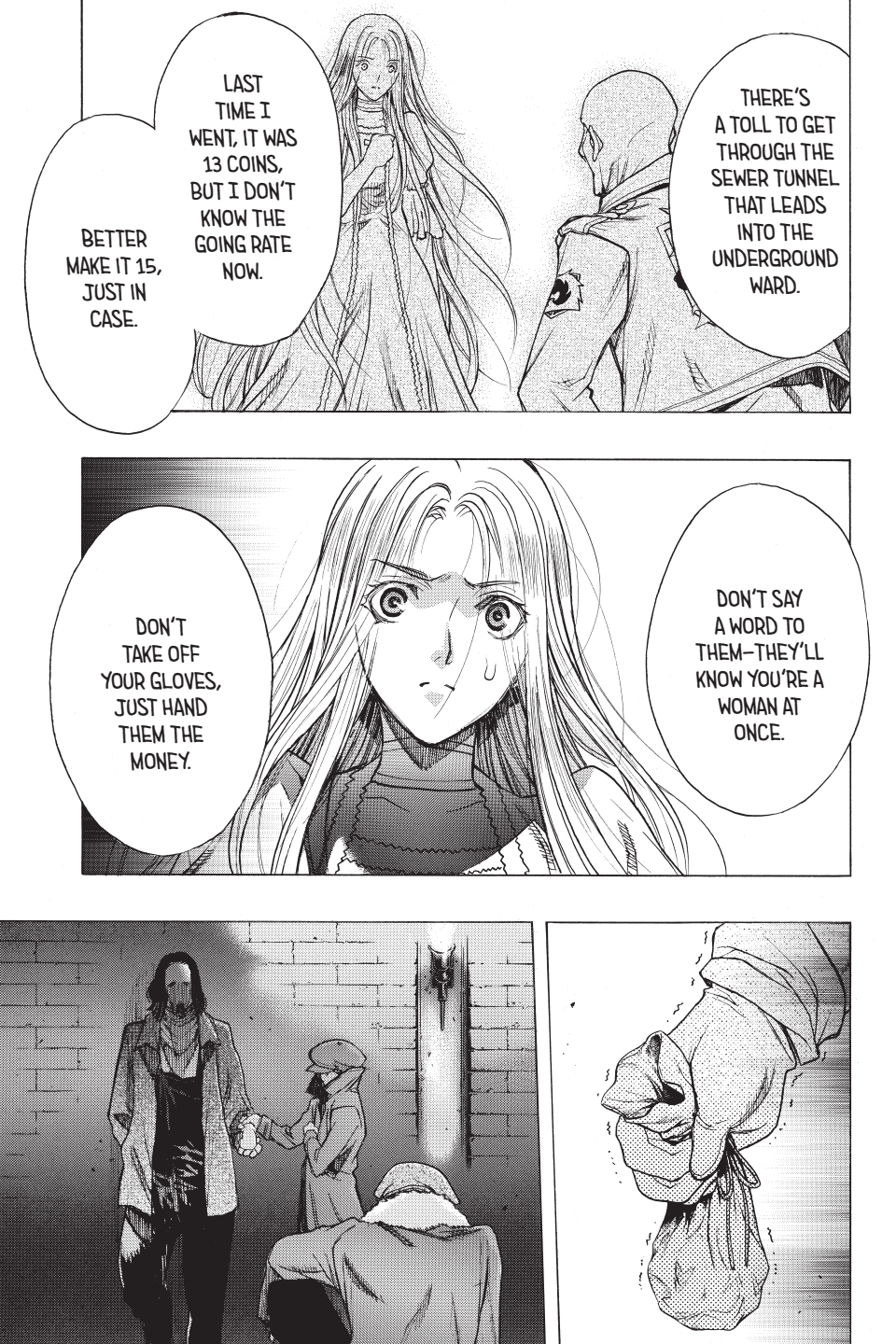


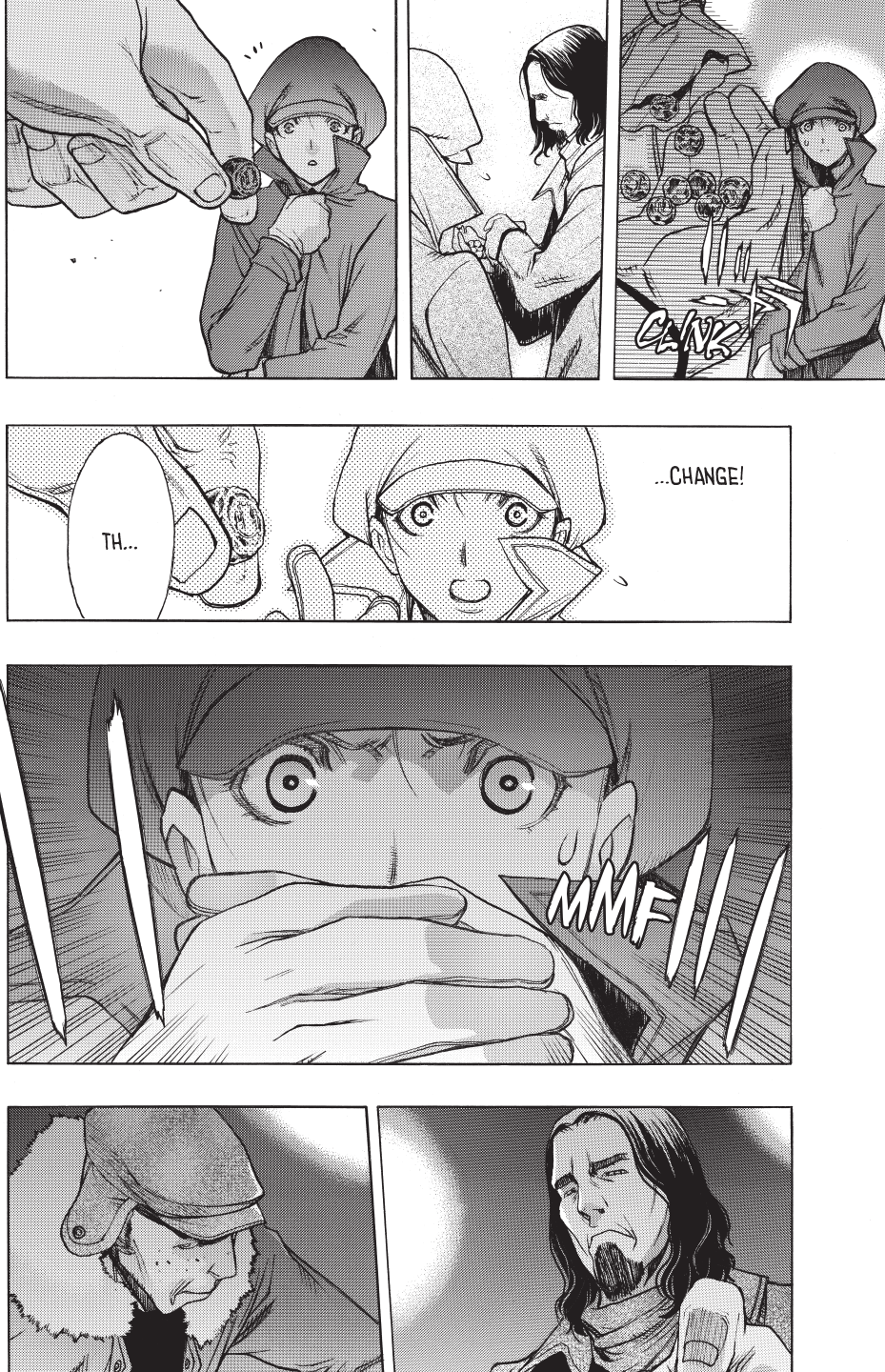


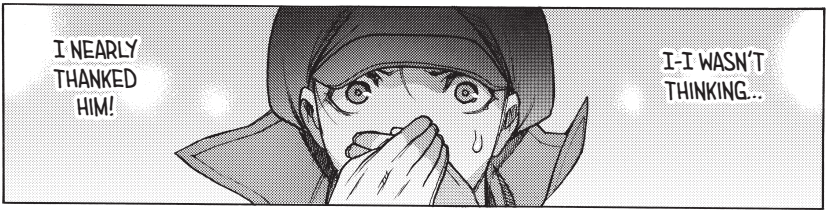


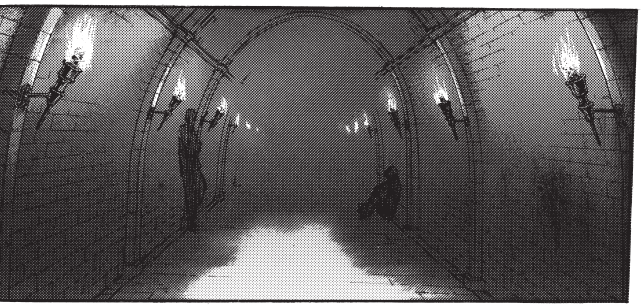

ゴクッ
GULP...

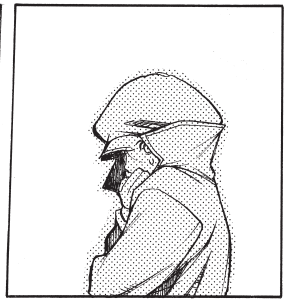
LISTEN UP.

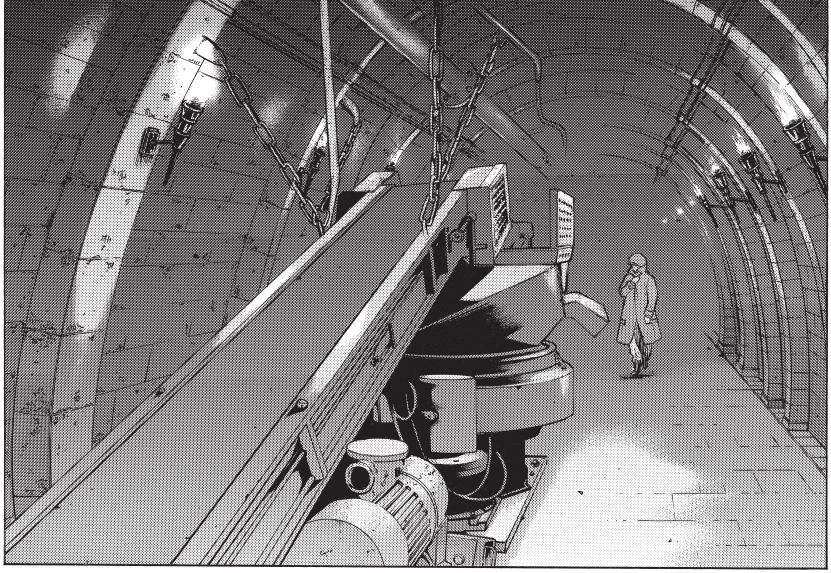

THERE'S A TOLL TO GET THROUGH THE SEWER TUNNEL THAT LEADS INTO THE UNDERGROUND WARD.
LAST TIME I WENT, IT WAS 13 COINS, BUT I DON'T KNOW THE GOING RATE NOW.
BETTER MAKE IT 15, JUST IN CASE.
DON'T SAY A WORD TO THEM—THEY'LL KNOW YOU'RE A WOMAN AT ONCE.
DON'T TAKE OFF YOUR GLOVES, JUST HAND THEM THE MONEY.

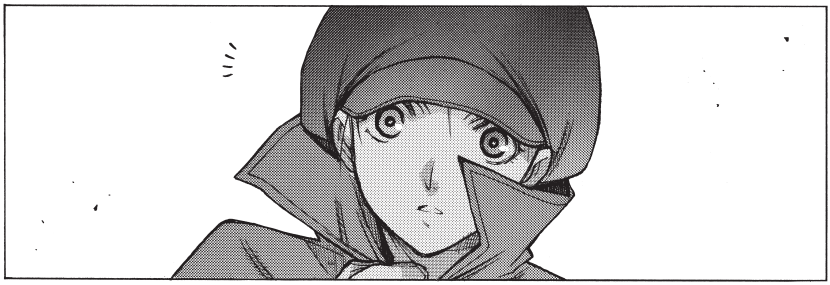

CLINK
...CHANGE!
TH...
MMF!!!

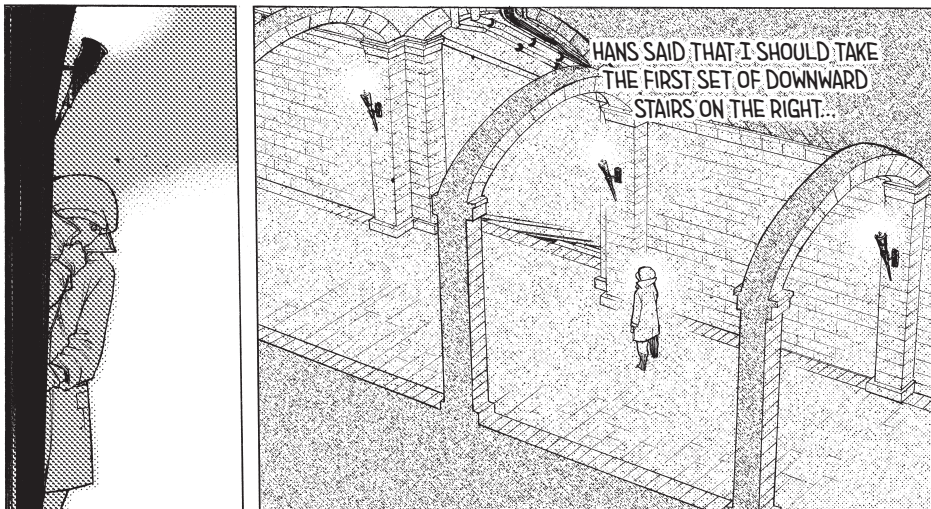

I NEARLY THANKED HIM!
I-I WASN'T THINKING...

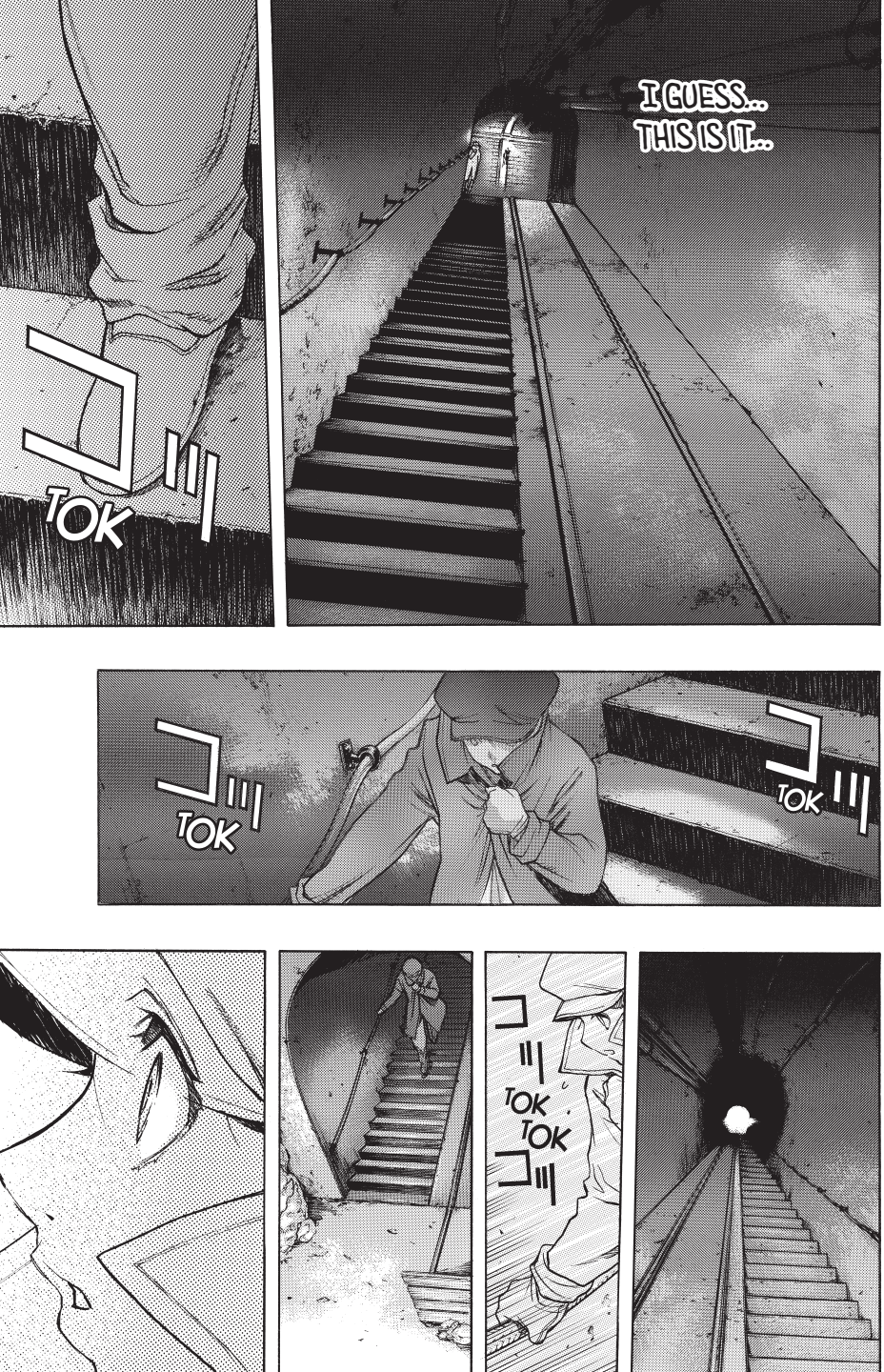









HANS SAID THAT I SHOULD TAKE THE FIRST SET OF DOWNWARD STAIRS ON THE RIGHT...


I GUESS...
THIS IS IT...
コツ
TOK
コツ
TOK
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TOK
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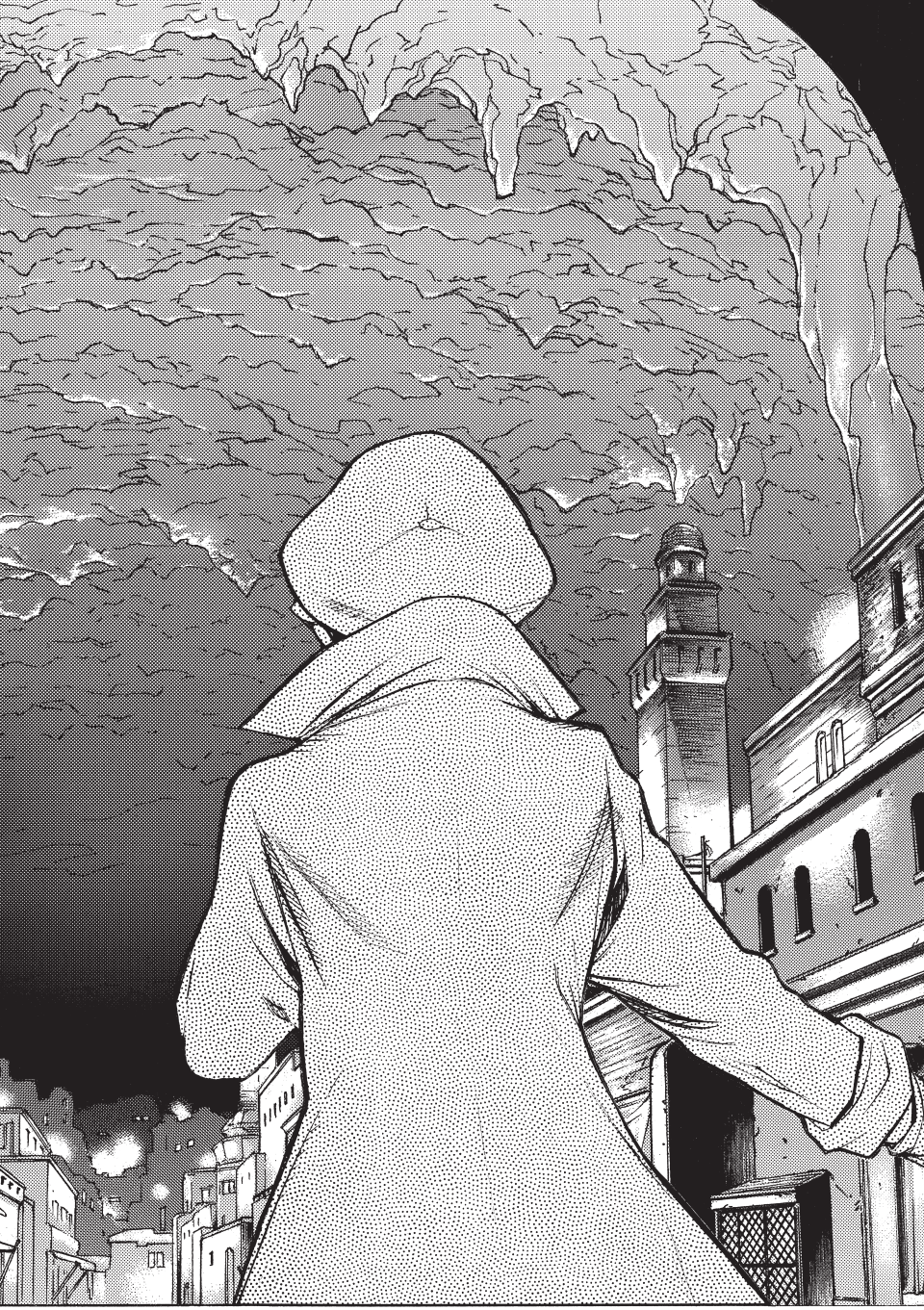
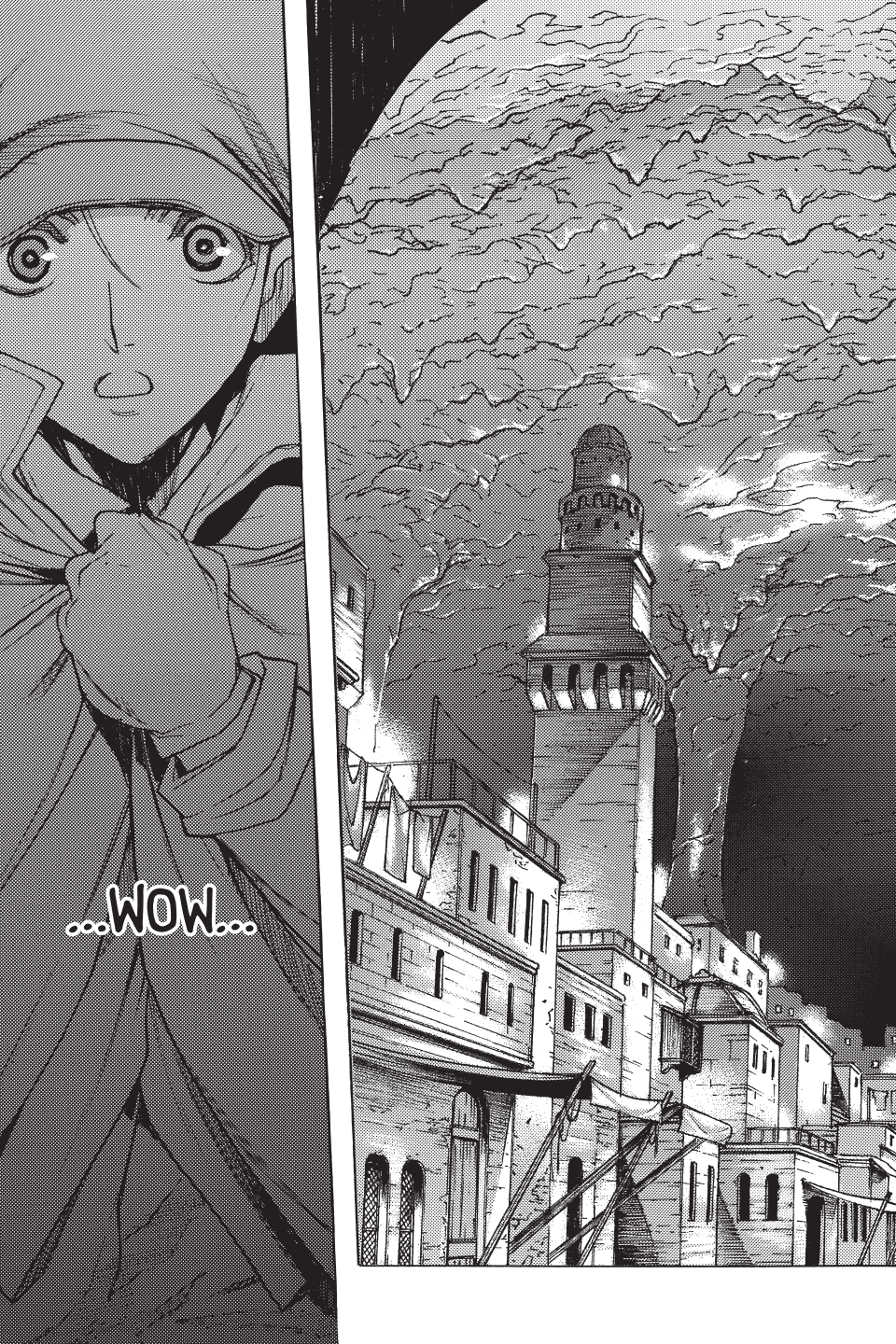
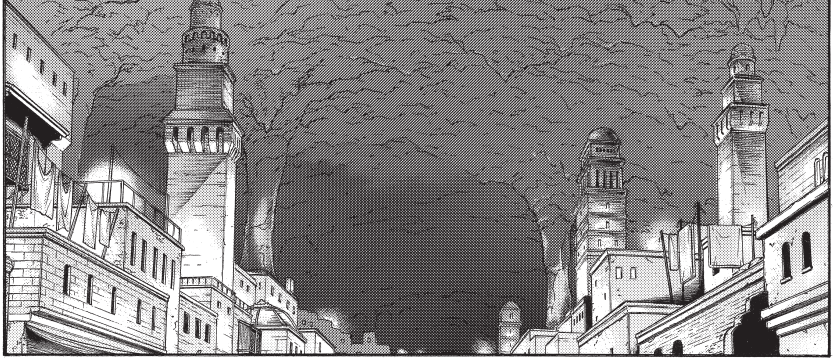
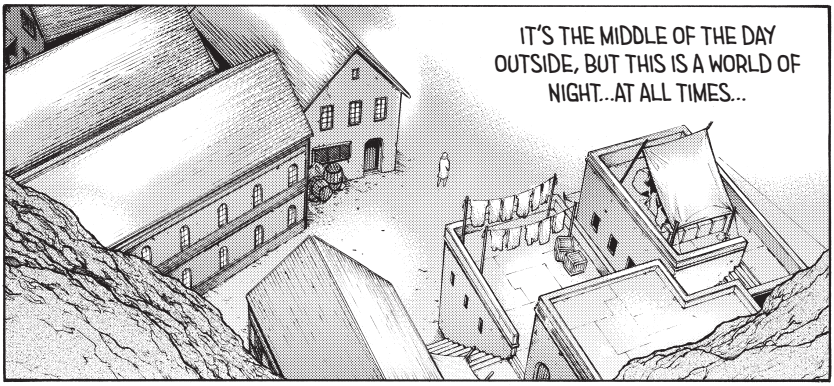
TOK
TOK
コツ




...WOW...

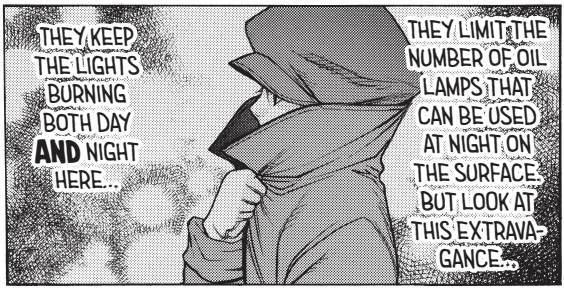


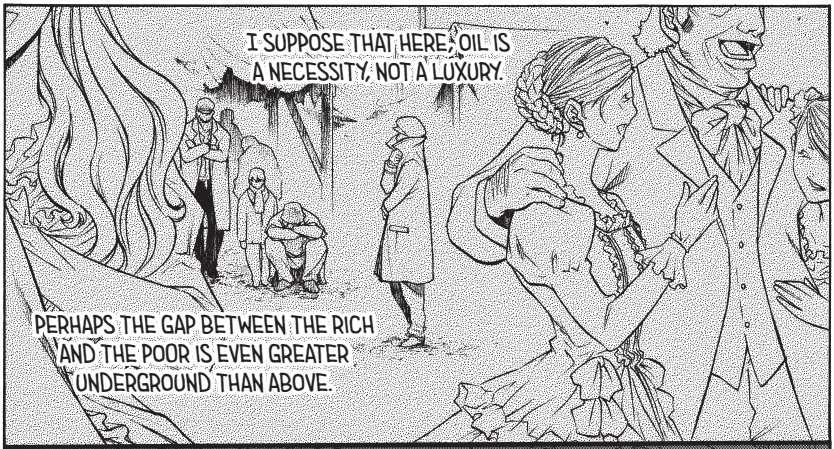
IT'S...
INCREDIBLE...

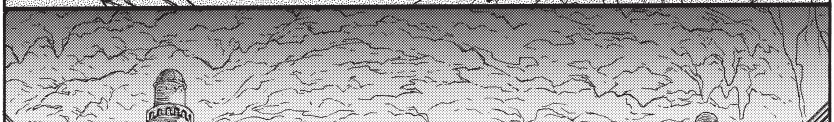

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY OUTSIDE, BUT THIS IS A WORLD OF NIGHT...AT ALL TIMES...

DON'T JUST STAND IN PLACE AND GAWK.
YOU'LL ONLY IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS AN EASY MARK.
AH...

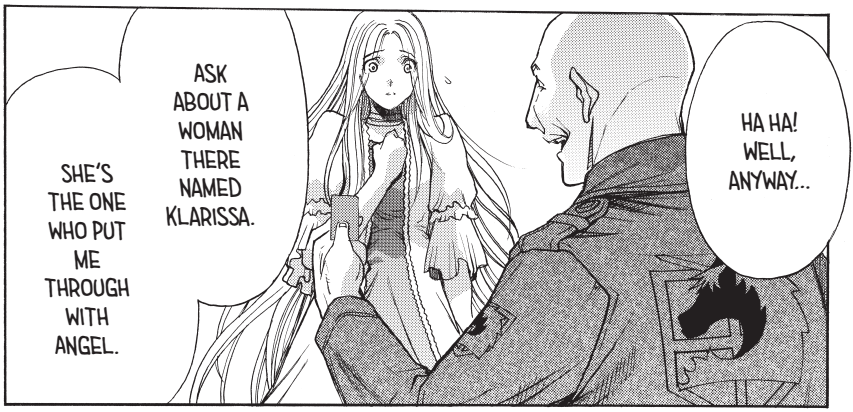
THEN AGAIN...

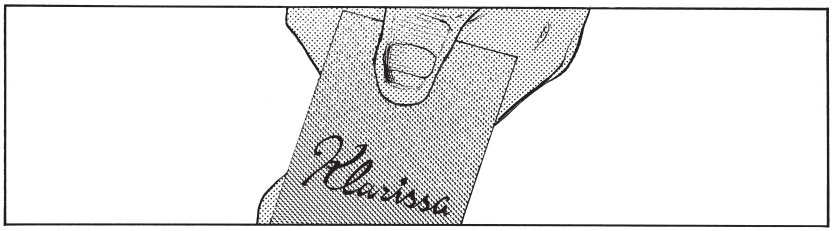

THEY KEEP THE LIGHTS BURNING BOTH DAY AND NIGHT HERE...
THEY LIMIT THE NUMBER OF OIL LAMPS THAT CAN BE USED AT NIGHT ON THE SURFACE. BUT LOOK AT THIS EXTRAVAGANCE...


I SUPPOSE THAT HERE, OIL IS A NECESSITY, NOT A LUXURY.
PERHAPS THE GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR IS EVEN GREATER UNDERGROUND THAN ABOVE.

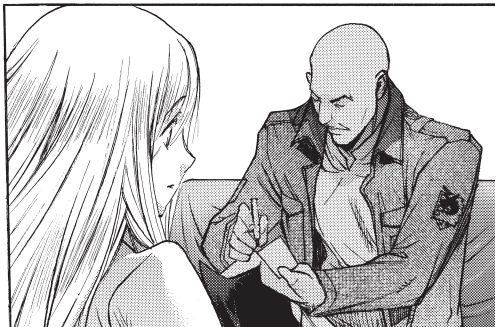


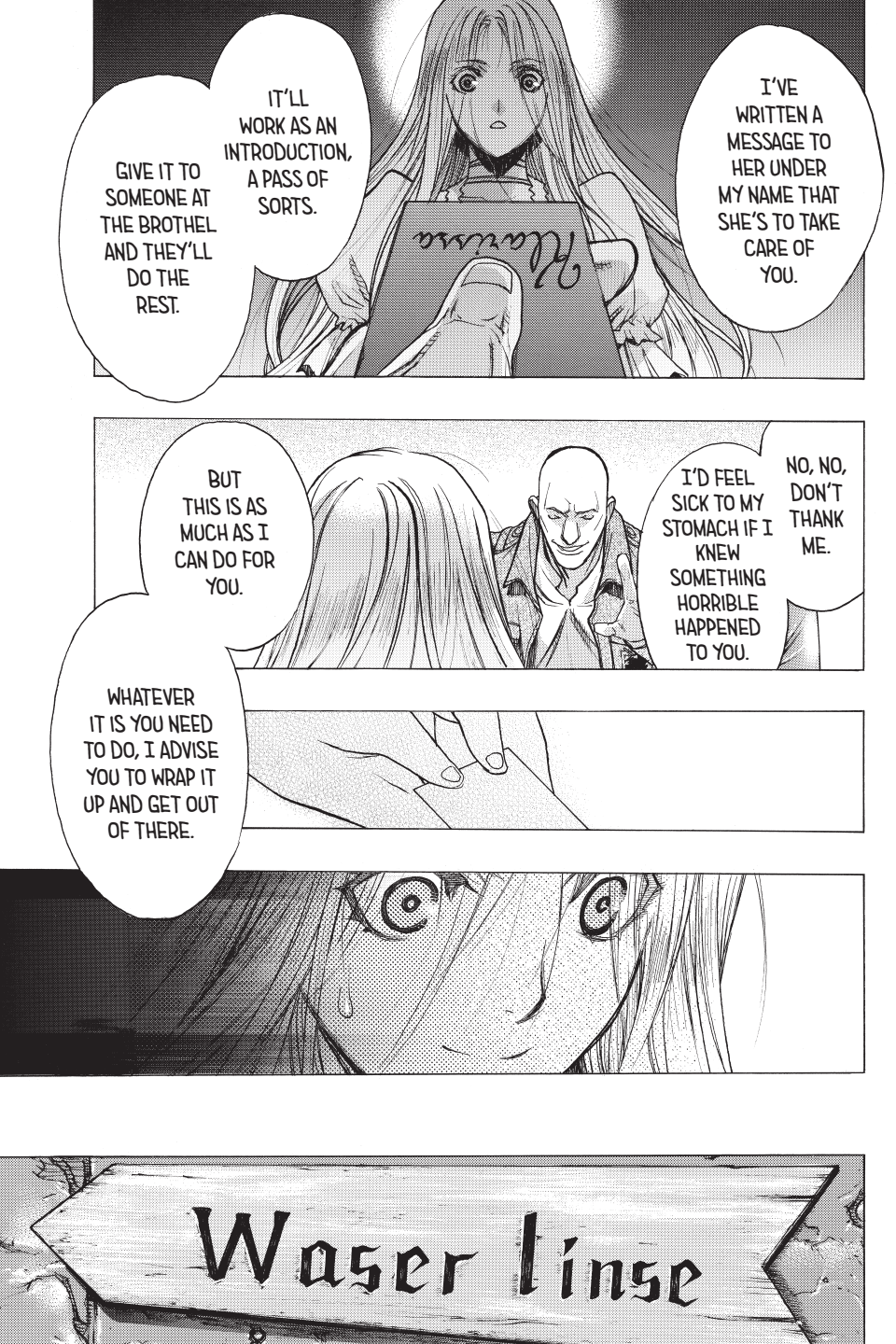
OH, DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT A BROTHEL IS?
NO SIGN TO ADVERTISE THAT IT'S A BROTHEL, THOUGH.
THERE'S A HIGH-CLASS BROTHEL ON THE RIGHT CORNER OF THE SECOND BLOCK, ONCE YOU REACH MAIN STREET.

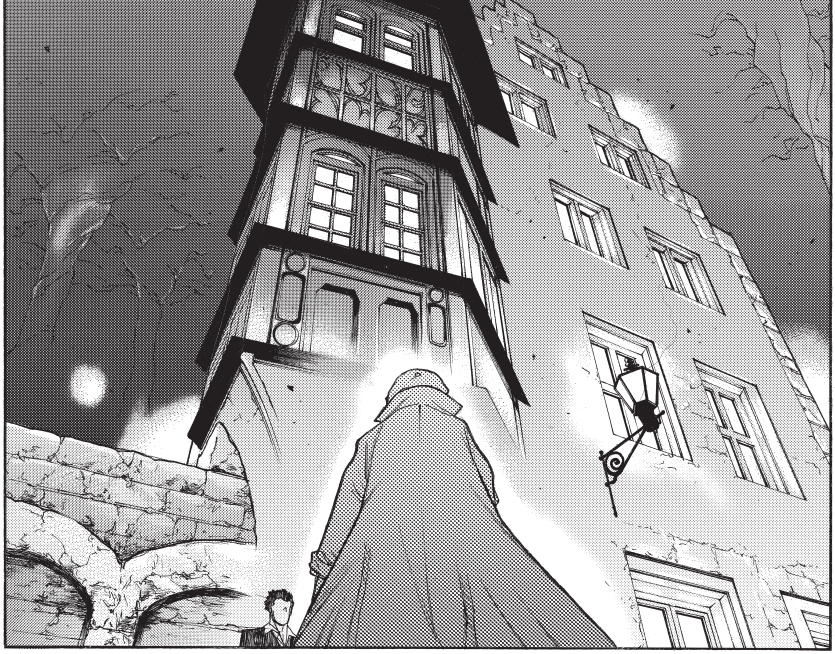

SHE'S THE ONE WHO PUT ME THROUGH WITH ANGEL.
ASK ABOUT A WOMAN THERE NAMED KLARISSA.
HA HA! WELL, ANYWAY...

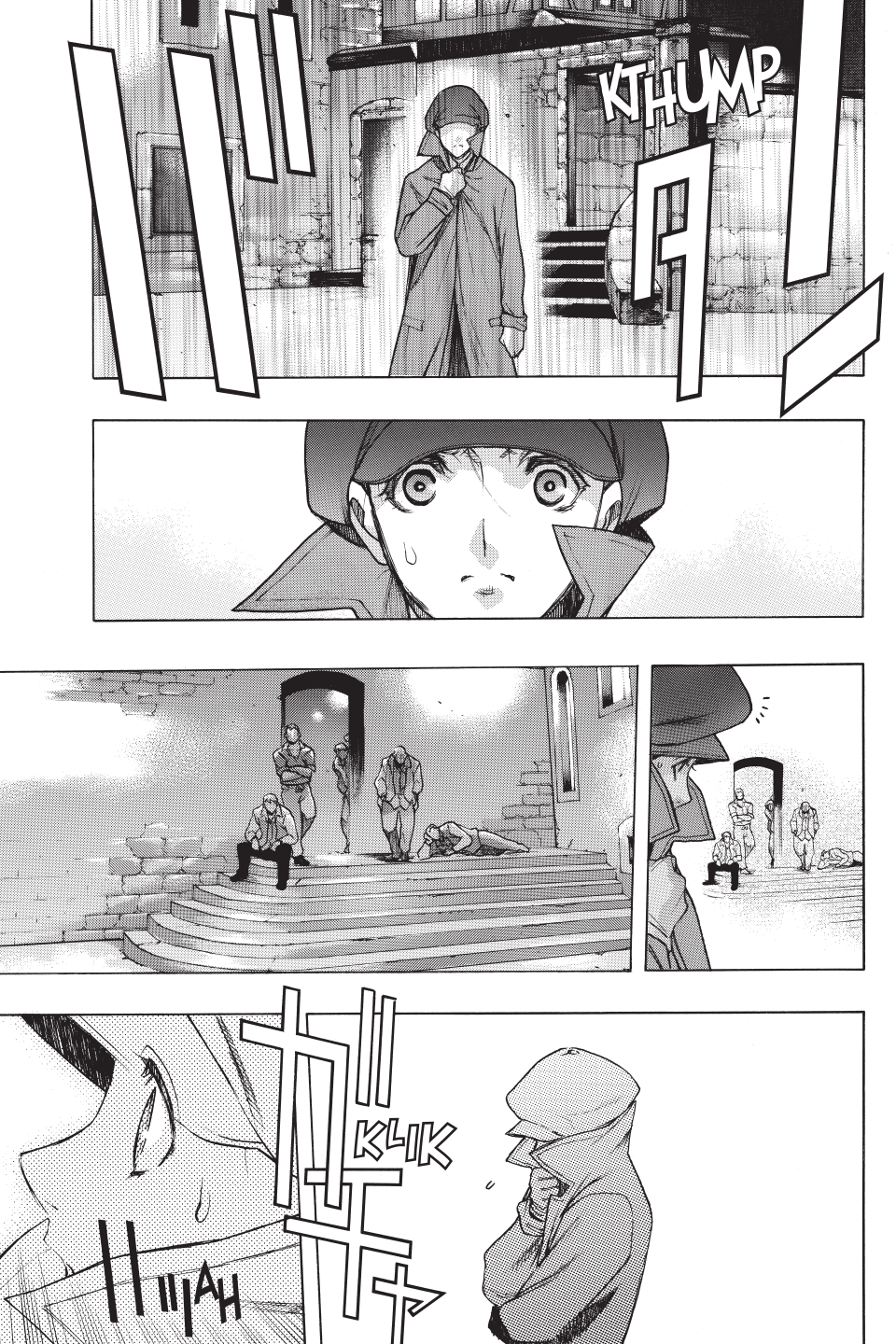

Klarissa

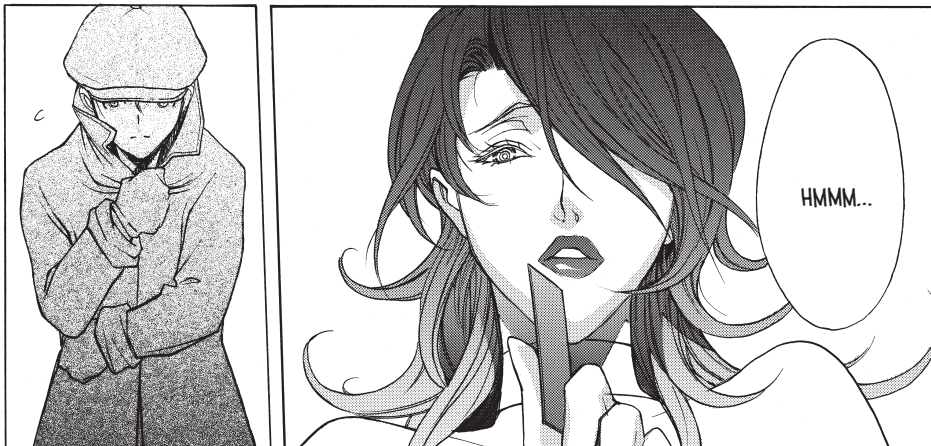
Klarissa



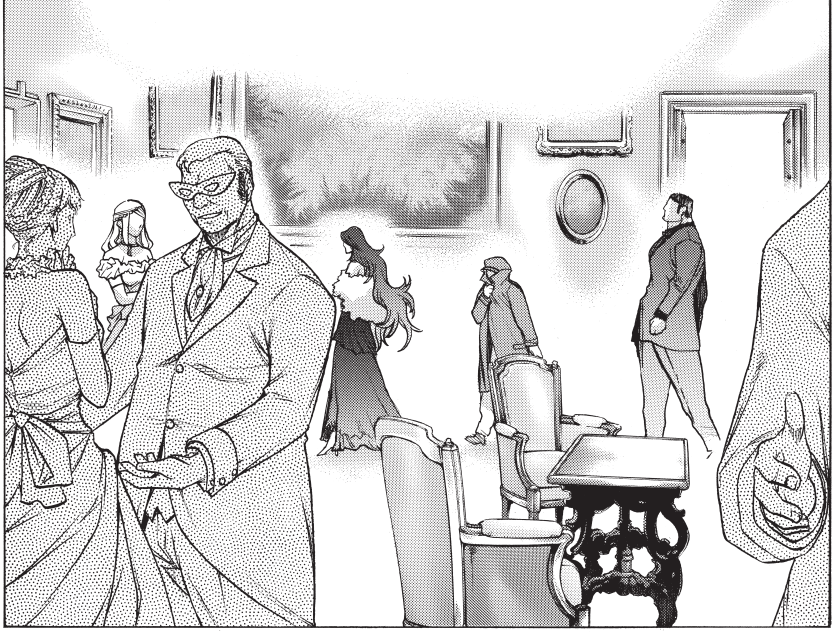

I'VE WRITTEN A MESSAGE TO HER UNDER MY NAME THAT SHE'S TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
IT'LL WORK AS AN INTRODUCTION, A PASS OF SORTS.
GIVE IT TO SOMEONE AT THE BROTHEL AND THEY'LL DO THE REST.
NO, NO, DON'T THANK ME.
I'D FEEL SICK TO MY STOMACH IF I KNEW SOMETHING HORRIBLE HAPPENED TO YOU.
BUT THIS IS AS MUCH AS I CAN DO FOR YOU.
WHATEVER IT IS YOU NEED TO DO, I ADVISE YOU TO WRAP IT UP AND GET OUT OF THERE.
Waser linse

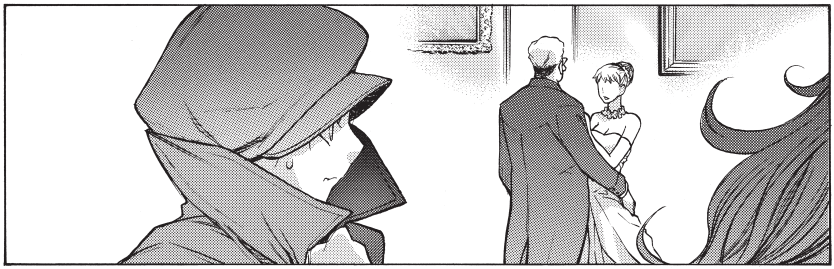


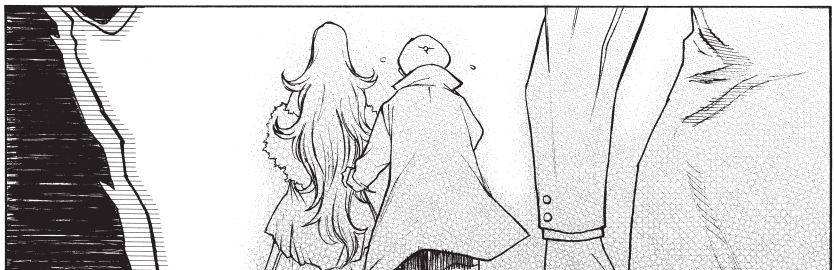

KTHUMP
KLIK
AH

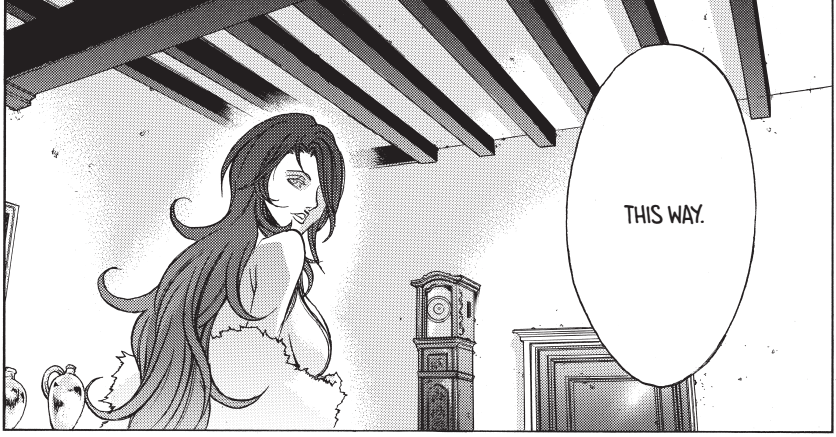

HMMM...

ALL RIGHT, YOU'LL DO.
FOLLOW ME.
THUMP
TOK
TOK
TOK

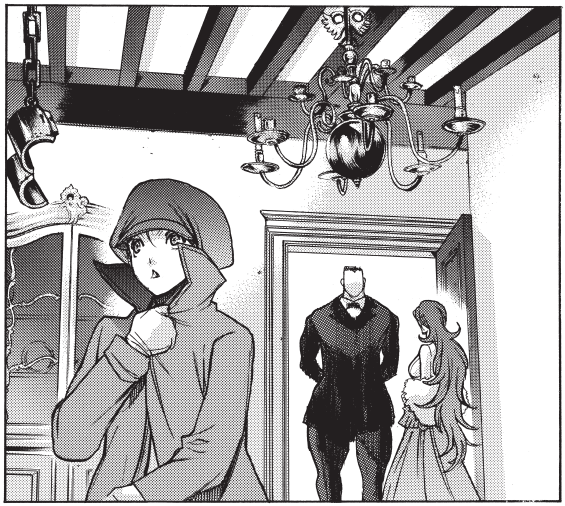


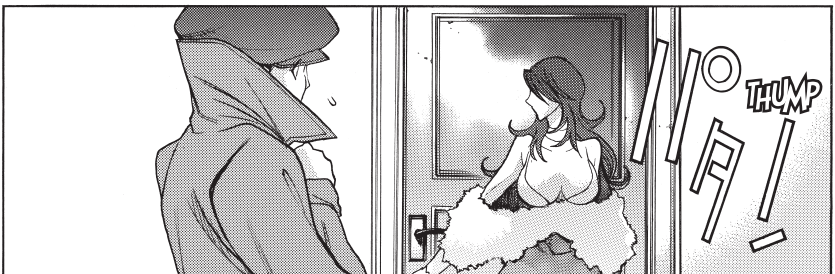


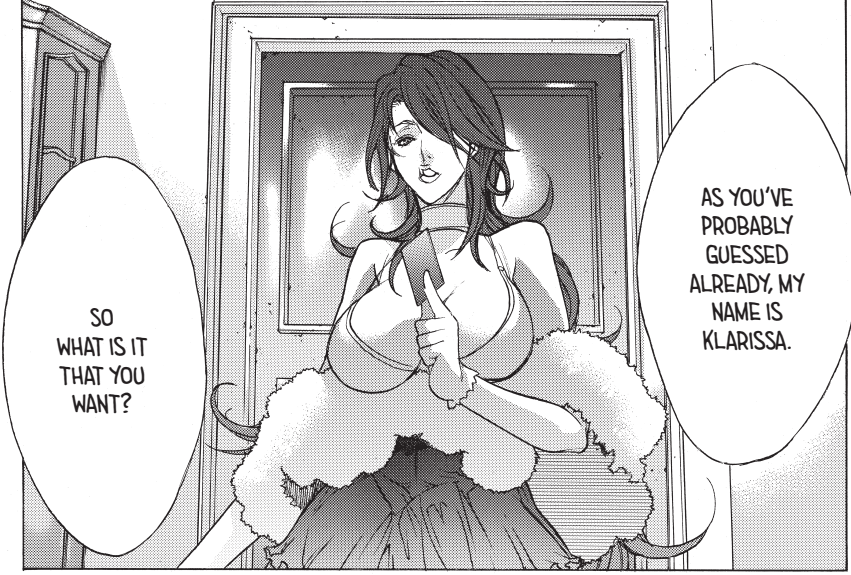


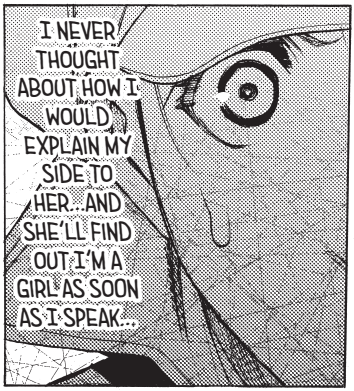

THIS WAY.

DON'T LET ANYONE BOTHER US FOR A WHILE.

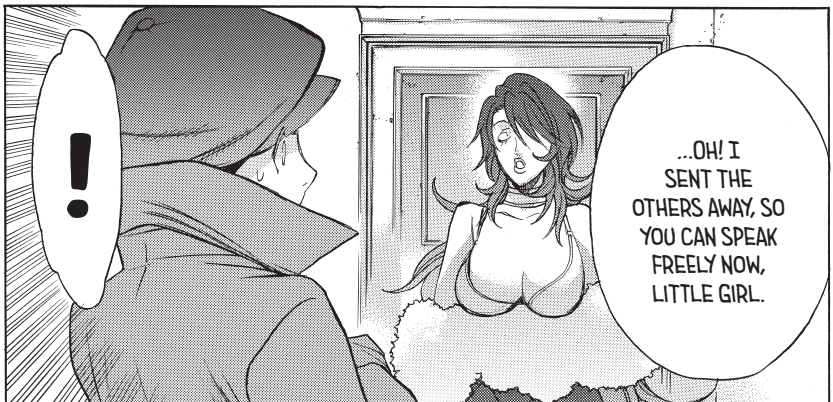



THUMP
ハタ！

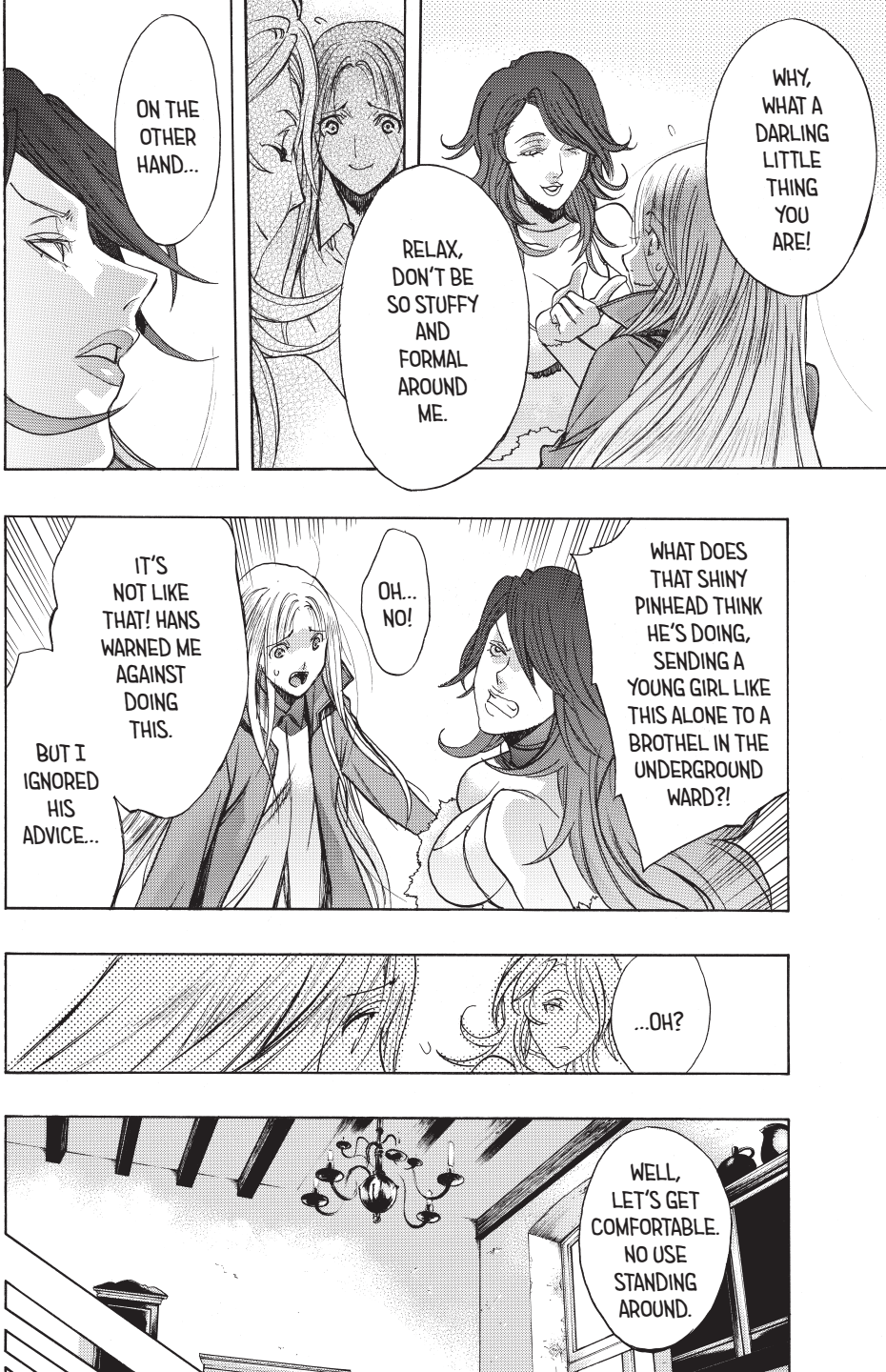

AS YOU'VE PROBABLY GUESSED ALREADY, MY NAME IS KLARISSA.
SO WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT?

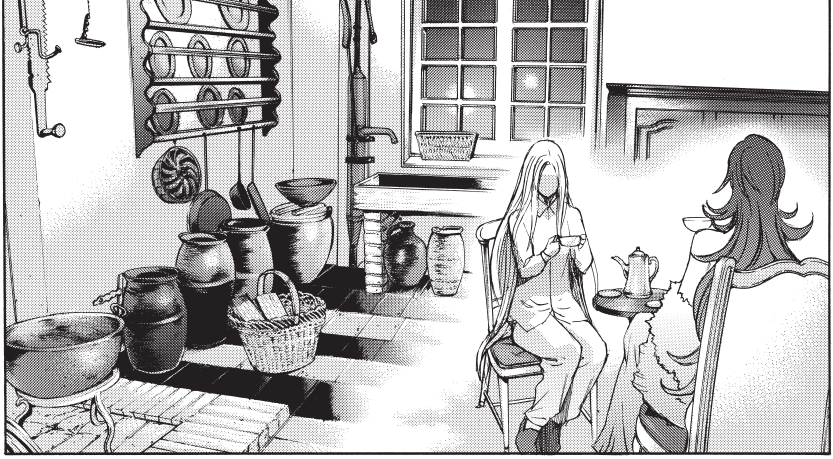

I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT HOW I WOULD EXPLAIN MY SIDE TO HER... AND SHE'LL FIND OUT I'M A GIRL AS SOON AS I SPEAK...

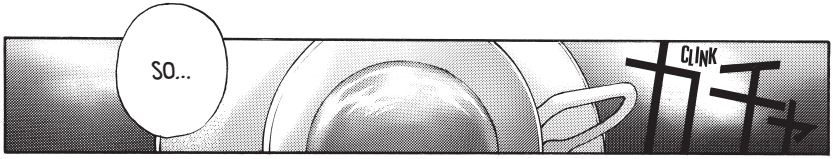
OH NO...
I'M SUCH A FOOL...
...

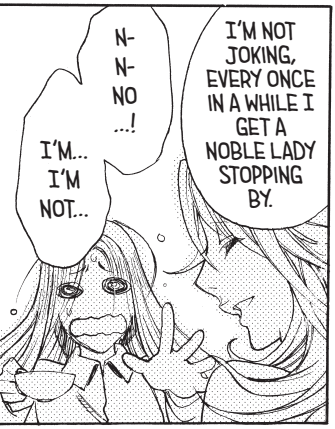

!
...OH! I SENT THE OTHERS AWAY, SO YOU CAN SPEAK FREELY NOW, LITTLE GIRL.

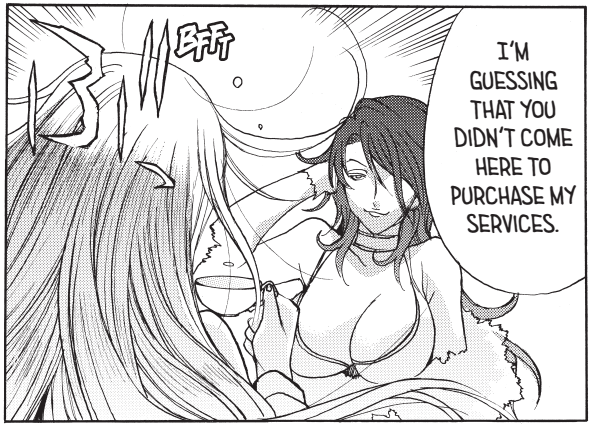
FWUP
YOU THINK A LADY IN MY LINE OF WORK CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN?
MY NAME IS SHARLE INOCENCIO!
BOW
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR MEETING WITH ME!
OH!
OH MY.
OH MY, MY, MY.

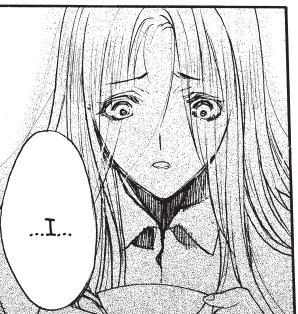

WHY, WHAT A DARLING LITTLE THING YOU ARE!
RELAX, DON'T BE SO STUFFY AND FORMAL AROUND ME.
ON THE OTHER HAND...
WHAT DOES THAT SHINY PINHEAD THINK HE'S DOING, SENDING A YOUNG GIRL LIKE THIS ALONE TO A BROTHEL IN THE UNDERGROUND WARD?!
OH... NO!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! HANS WARNED ME AGAINST DOING THIS.
BUT I IGNORED HIS ADVICE...
...OH?
WELL, LET'S GET COMFORTABLE. NO USE STANDING AROUND.



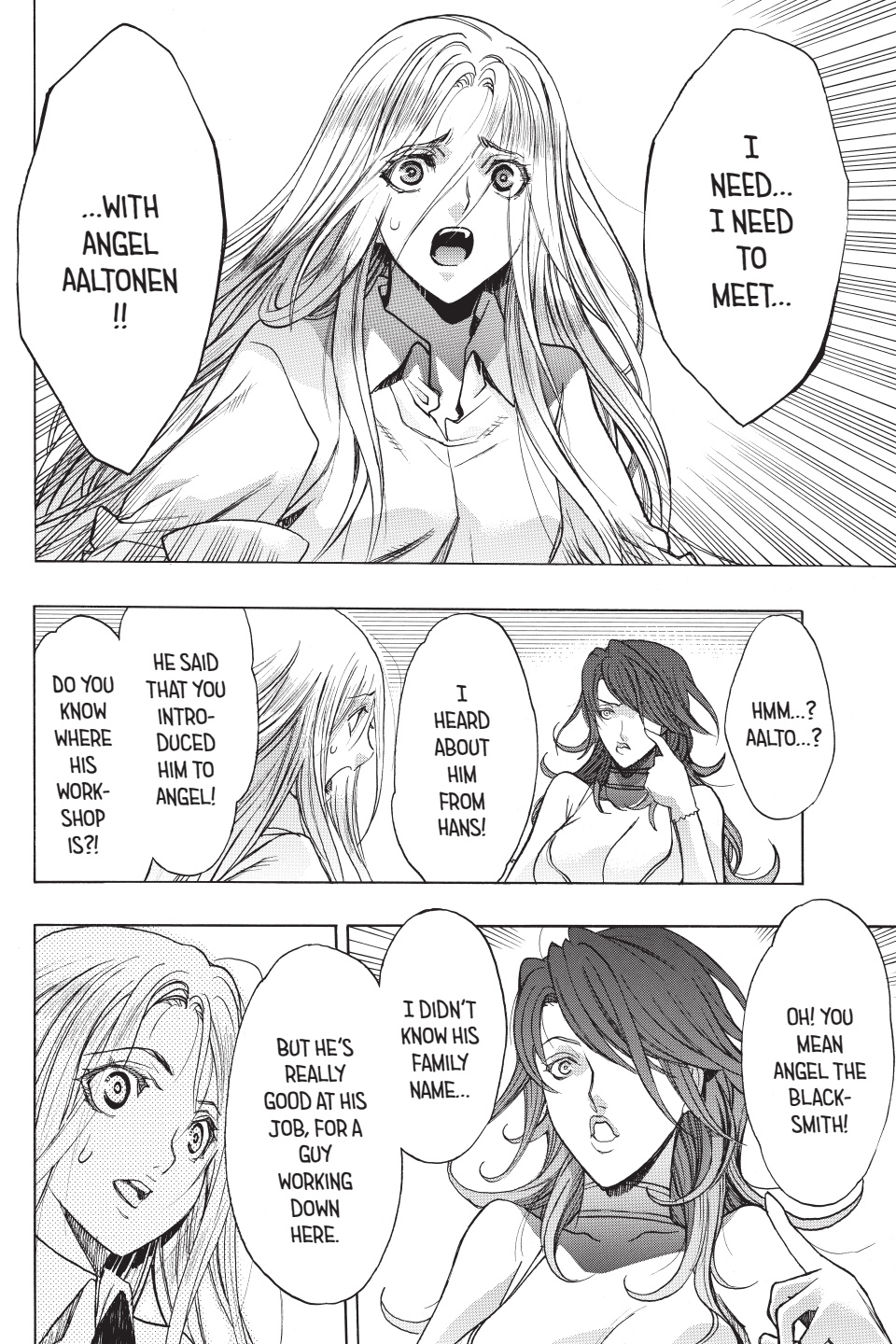

SO...
CLINK
カチャ

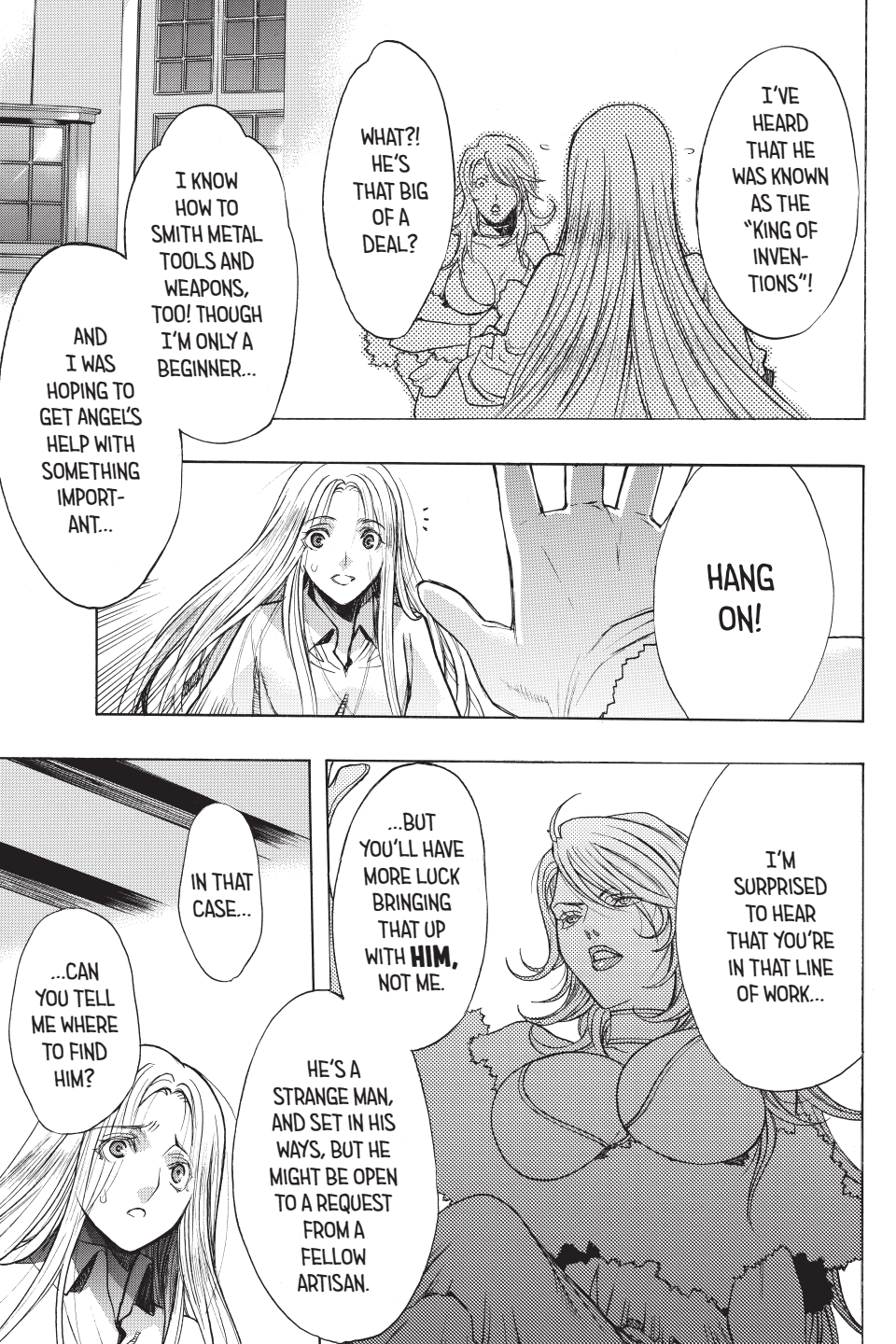

I'M NOT JOKING, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE I GET A NOBLE LADY STOPPING BY.
N-N-NO ...!
I'M... I'M NOT...

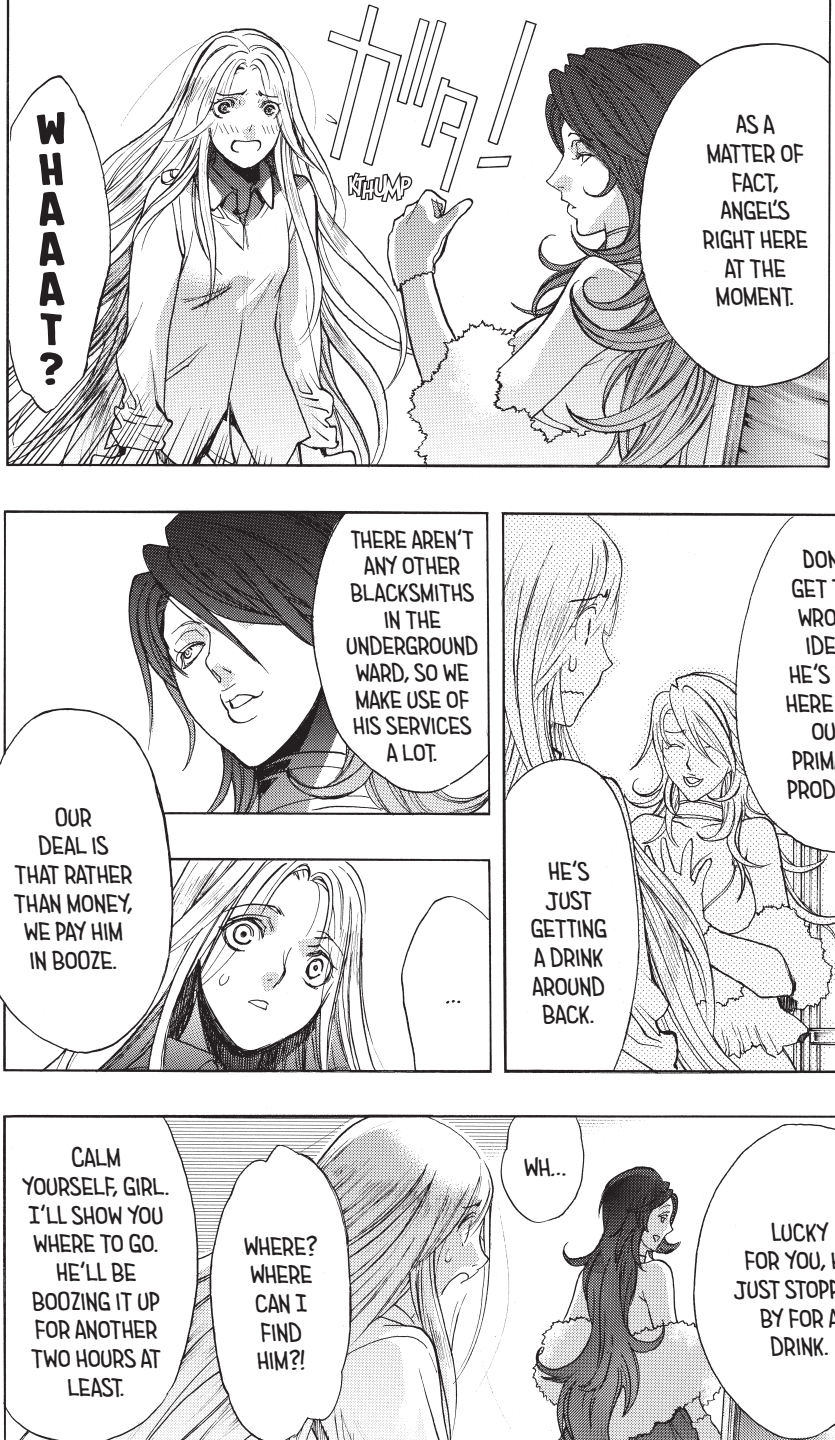

I'M GUESSING THAT YOU DIDN'T COME HERE TO PURCHASE MY SERVICES.
Bff

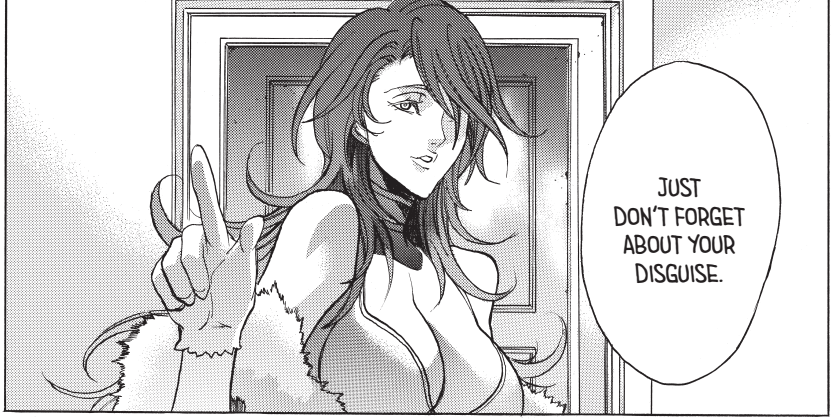

...I...

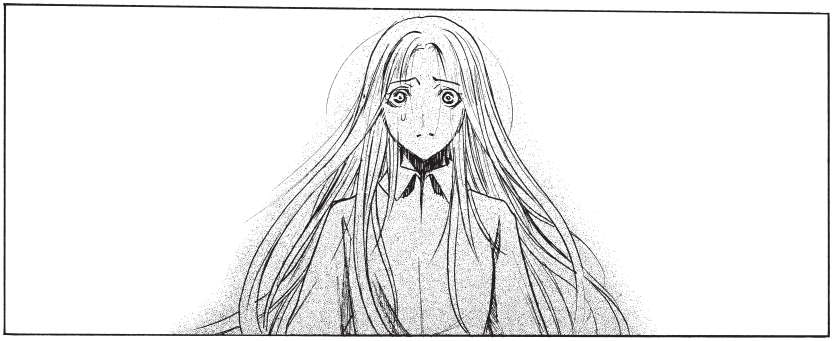
WHAT'S YOUR STORY?
I'M JUST TEASING, HONEY.
BUT I'M SERIOUS WHEN I SAY THAT THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF PLACE FOR YOUNG LADIES LIKE YOU.

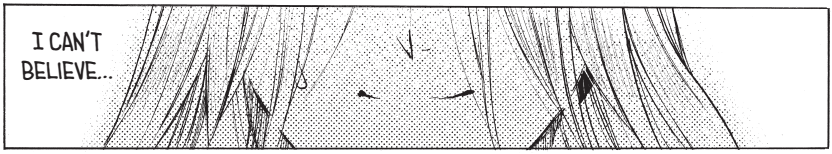

I NEED... I NEED TO MEET...
...WITH ANGEL AALTONEN !!
HMM...? AALTO...?
I HEARD ABOUT HIM FROM HANS!
HE SAID THAT YOU INTRO-DUCED HIM TO ANGEL!
DO YOU KNOW WHERE HIS WORK-SHOP IS?!
OH! YOU MEAN ANGEL THE BLACK-SMITH!
I DIDN'T KNOW HIS FAMILY NAME...
BUT HE'S REALLY GOOD AT HIS JOB, FOR A GUY WORKING DOWN HERE.

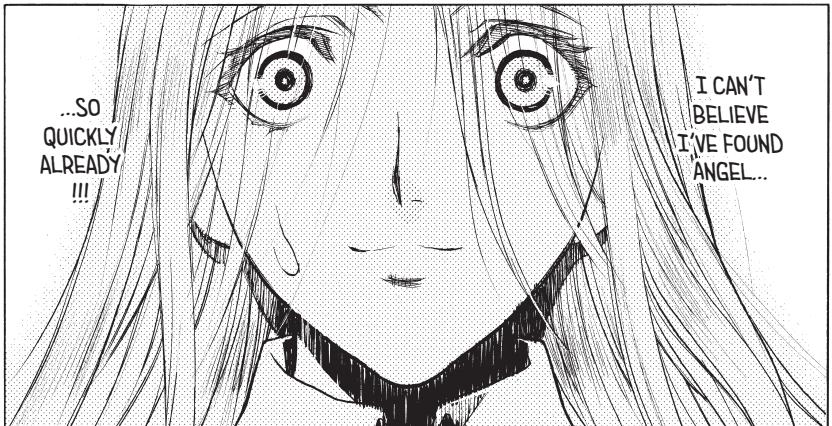

I'VE HEARD THAT HE WAS KNOWN AS THE "KING OF INVEN-TIONS"!
WHAT?! HE'S THAT BIG OF A DEAL?
I KNOW HOW TO SMITH METAL TOOLS AND WEAPONS, TOO! THOUGH I'M ONLY A BEGINNER...
AND I WAS HOPING TO GET ANGEL'S HELP WITH SOMETHING IMPORT-ANT...
HANG ON!
I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT YOU'RE IN THAT LINE OF WORK...
...BUT YOU'LL HAVE MORE LUCK BRINGING THAT UP WITH HIM, NOT ME.
HE'S A STRANGE MAN, AND SET IN HIS WAYS, BUT HE MIGHT BE OPEN TO A REQUEST FROM A FELLOW ARTISAN.
IN THAT CASE...
...CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE TO FIND HIM?

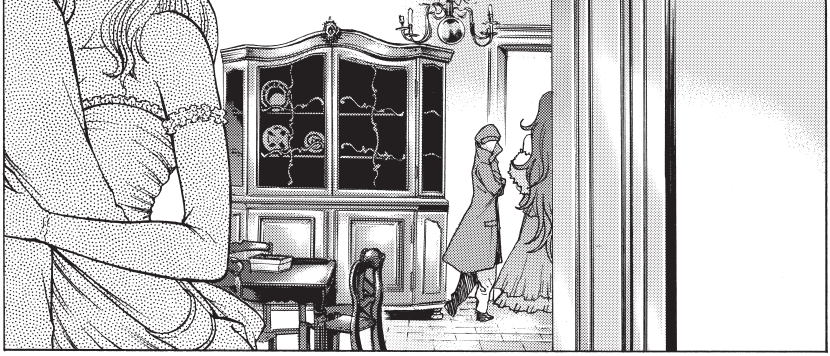

WHAAAT?
KTHUMP
AS A MATTER OF FACT, ANGEL'S RIGHT HERE AT THE MOMENT.
THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER BLACKSMITHS IN THE UNDERGROUND WARD, SO WE MAKE USE OF HIS SERVICES A LOT.
OUR DEAL IS THAT RATHER THAN MONEY, WE PAY HIM IN BOOZE.
...
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA, HE'S NOT HERE FOR OUR PRIMARY PRODUCT.
HE'S JUST GETTING A DRINK AROUND BACK.
CALM YOURSELF, GIRL. I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE TO GO. HE'LL BE BOOZING IT UP FOR ANOTHER TWO HOURS AT LEAST.
WHERE? WHERE CAN I FIND HIM?!
WH...
LUCKY FOR YOU, HE JUST STOPPED BY FOR A DRINK.

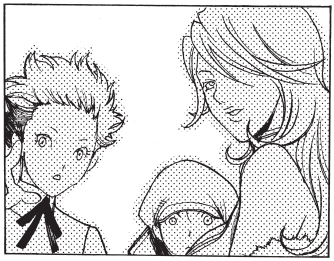

JUST DON'T FORGET ABOUT YOUR DISGUISE.

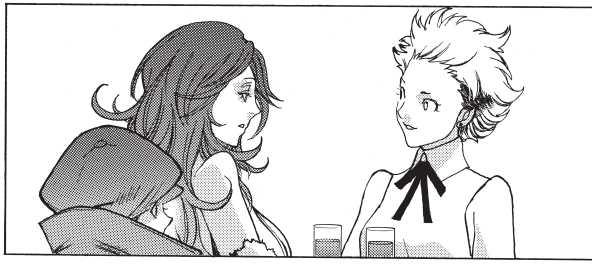



I CAN'T BELIEVE...

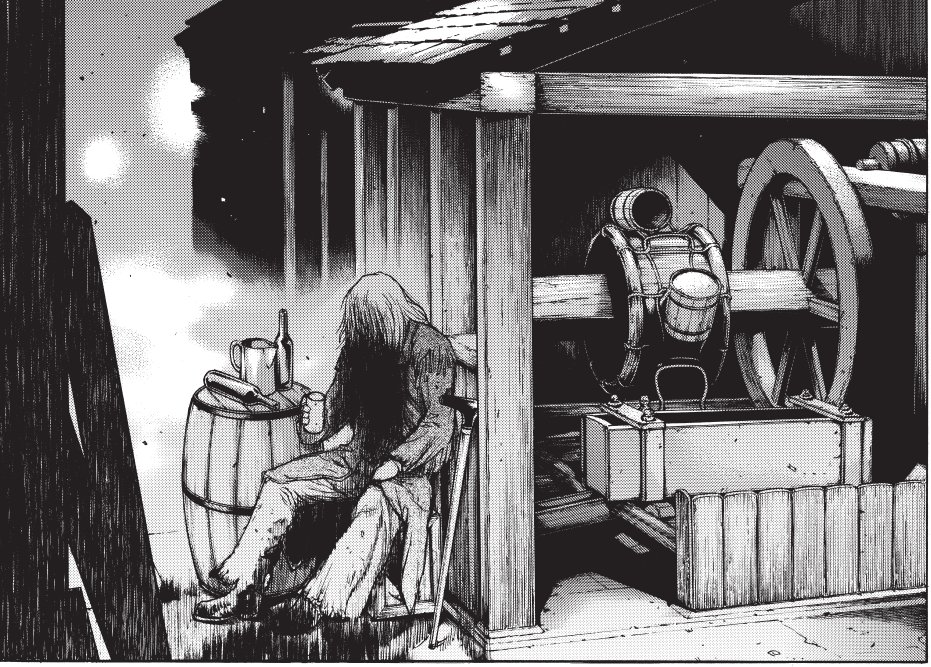

...SO QUICKLY ALREADY !!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE FOUND ANGEL...

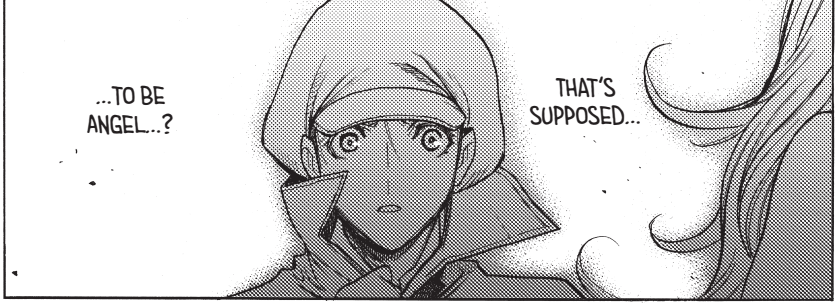


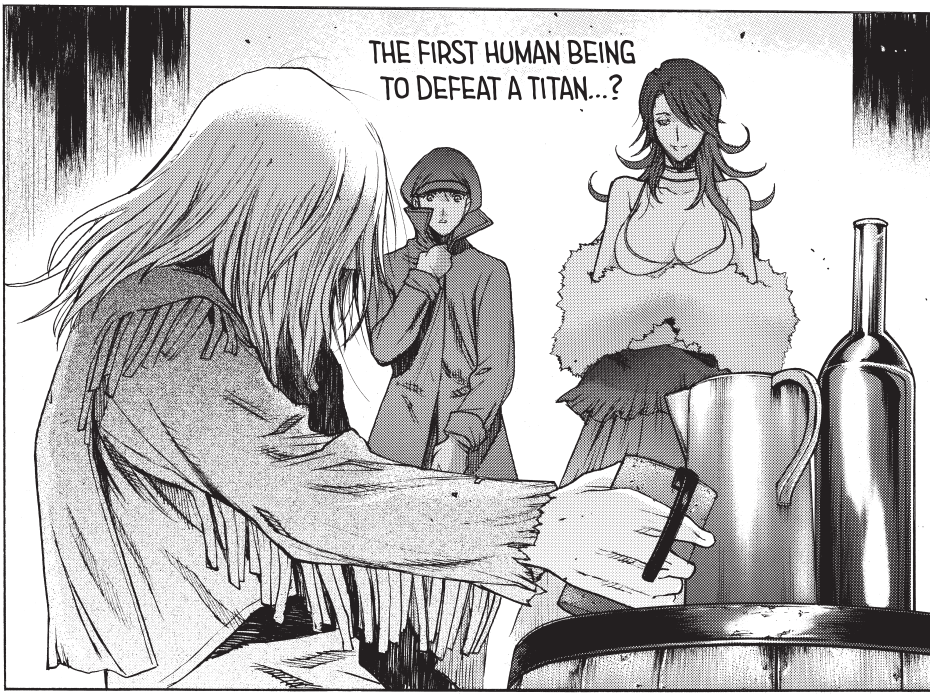


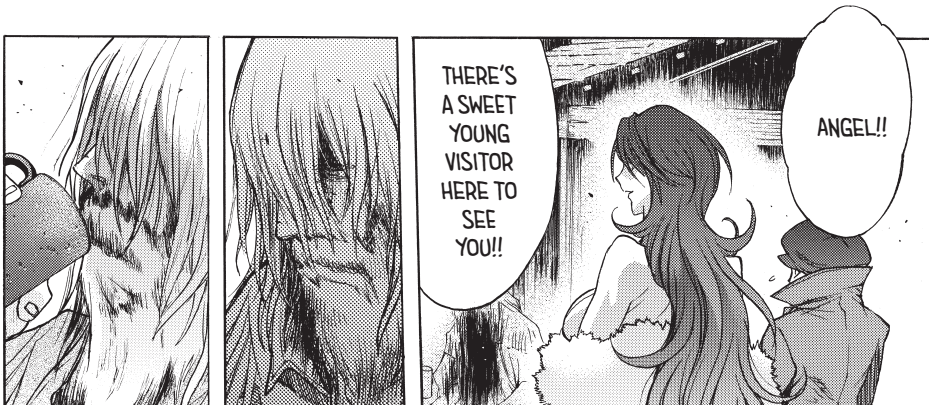


AHA, THERE HE IS!
ANGEL'S USUALLY SITTING ON A WOODEN BOX AROUND HERE...
HERE. THIS IS AROUND THE BACK.
GONGK
GATONK
ゴ!




...TO BE ANGEL...?
THAT'S SUPPOSED...


THE FIRST HUMAN BEING TO DEFEAT A TITAN...?


THERE'S A SWEET YOUNG VISITOR HERE TO SEE YOU!!
ANGEL!!

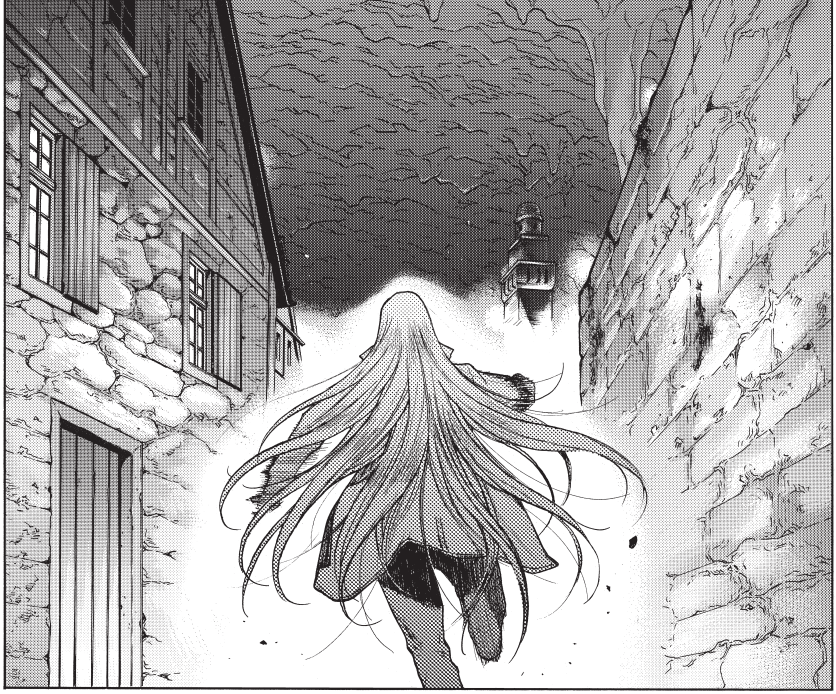
FWUP
...
UM... EXCUSE ME! MY NAME IS SHARLE INOCENCIO !!
I'M AN APPRENTICE OF XENOPHON HARKIMO!!

I TRAVELED HERE TO FIND YOU BECAUSE I HAVE A REQUEST OF YOU!!
PLEASE! PLEASE HELP US IMPROVE THE **DEVICE** THAT YOU DEVELOPED 15 YEARS AGO!
A... ANGEL ?!
I...THAT IS, **WE** HAVE INHERITED YOUR WILL— YOUR INTENTION TO TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE TITANS!!
SO WE'RE READY TO...

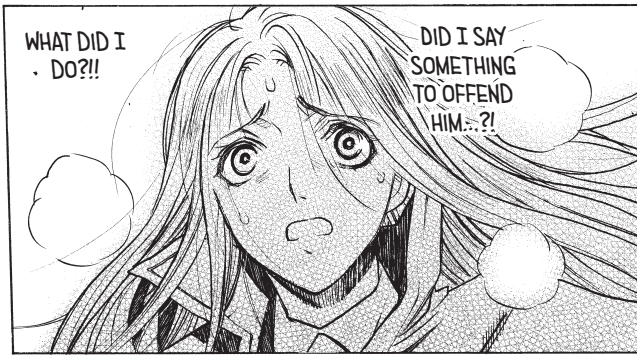
GANK
UH...
WHAM!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, ANGEL?!

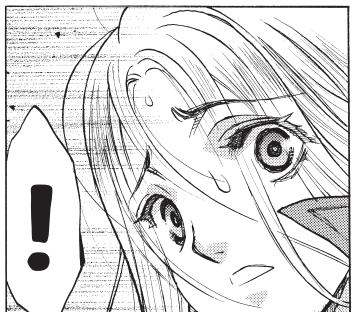
MY "WILL" ...?
WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ?!!
WHO ARE YOU?! WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO ACT AS THOUGH YOU KNOW ME?!

SNIK
SNIK
OH...
PARDON... I'M ALL SOBERED UP NOW.
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
L-LISTEN, HE'S JUST IN A BAD MOOD TODAY.
LIKE I SAID, HE'S STUBBORN, SO MAYBE JUST TRY AGAIN ANOTHER D...
!!!
DASH
HEY !!
WAIT, DON'T RUN OFF !!

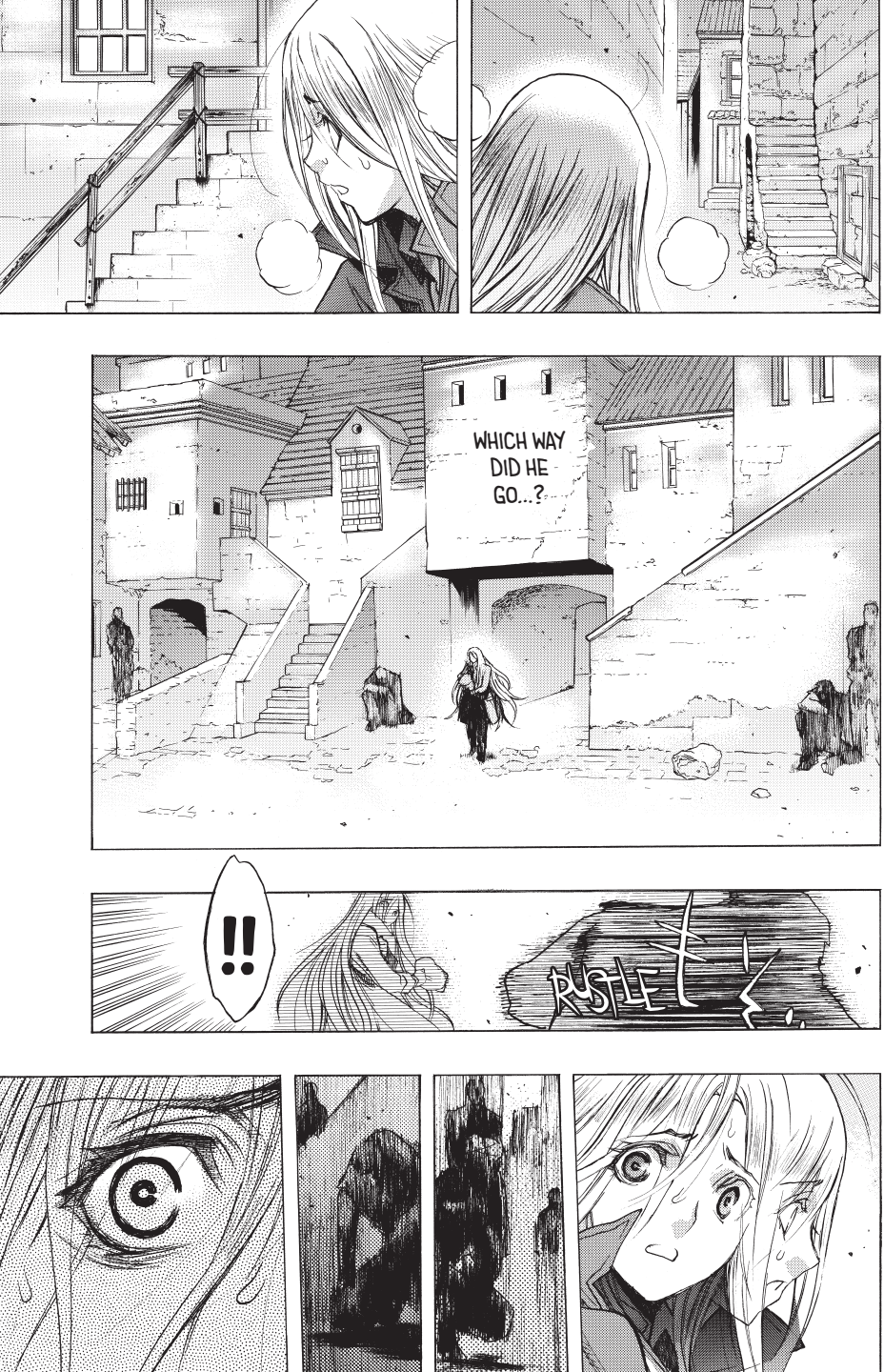


WHAT HAPPENED ...?!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...


WHAT DID I DO?!!
DID I SAY SOMETHING TO OFFEND HIM...?!


!

BUT IF I HURT HIM SOMEHOW, I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE!!


WHICH WAY DID HE GO...?
!!
RUSTLE

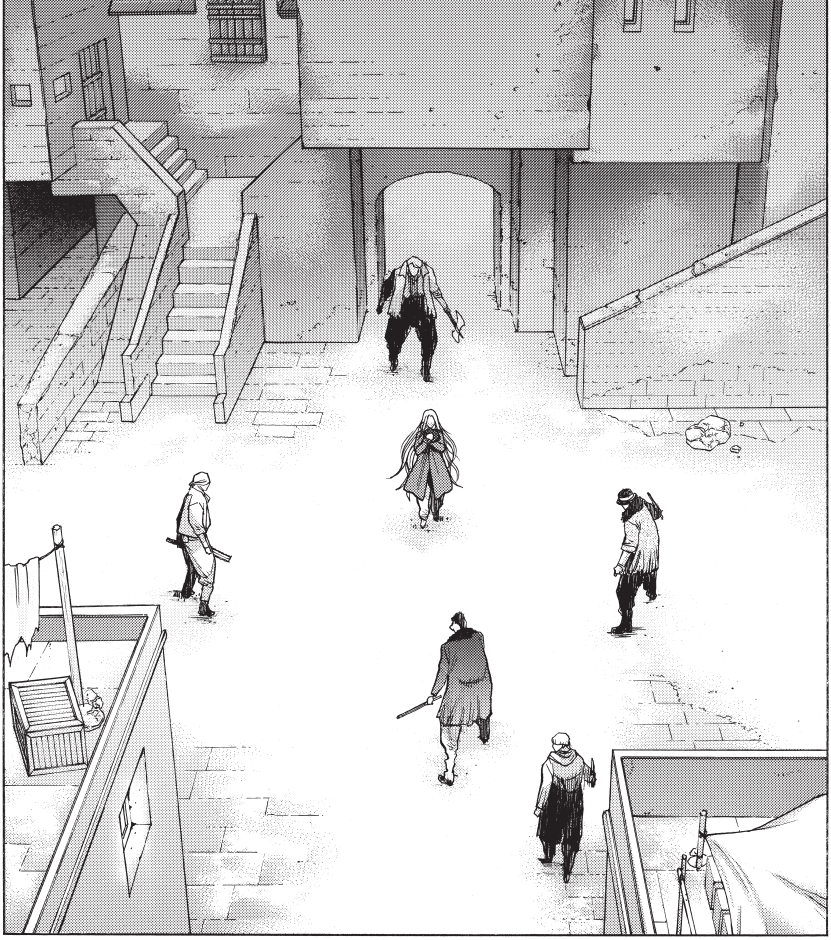
IT'S NOT A SAFE PLACE FOR A YOUNG WOMAN TO BE ALONE.
SO DON'T TRAVEL AS A WOMAN.

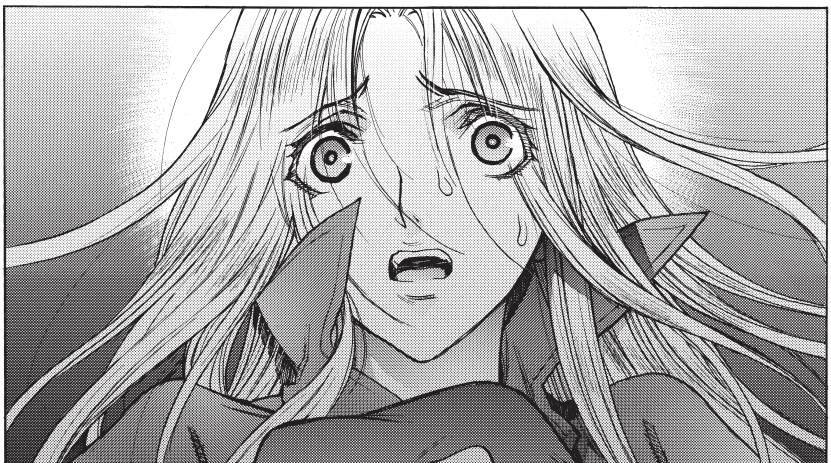
ZSH...
IT'S A HOTBED OF ALL KINDS OF CRIME AND IMMORAL BEHAVIOR...

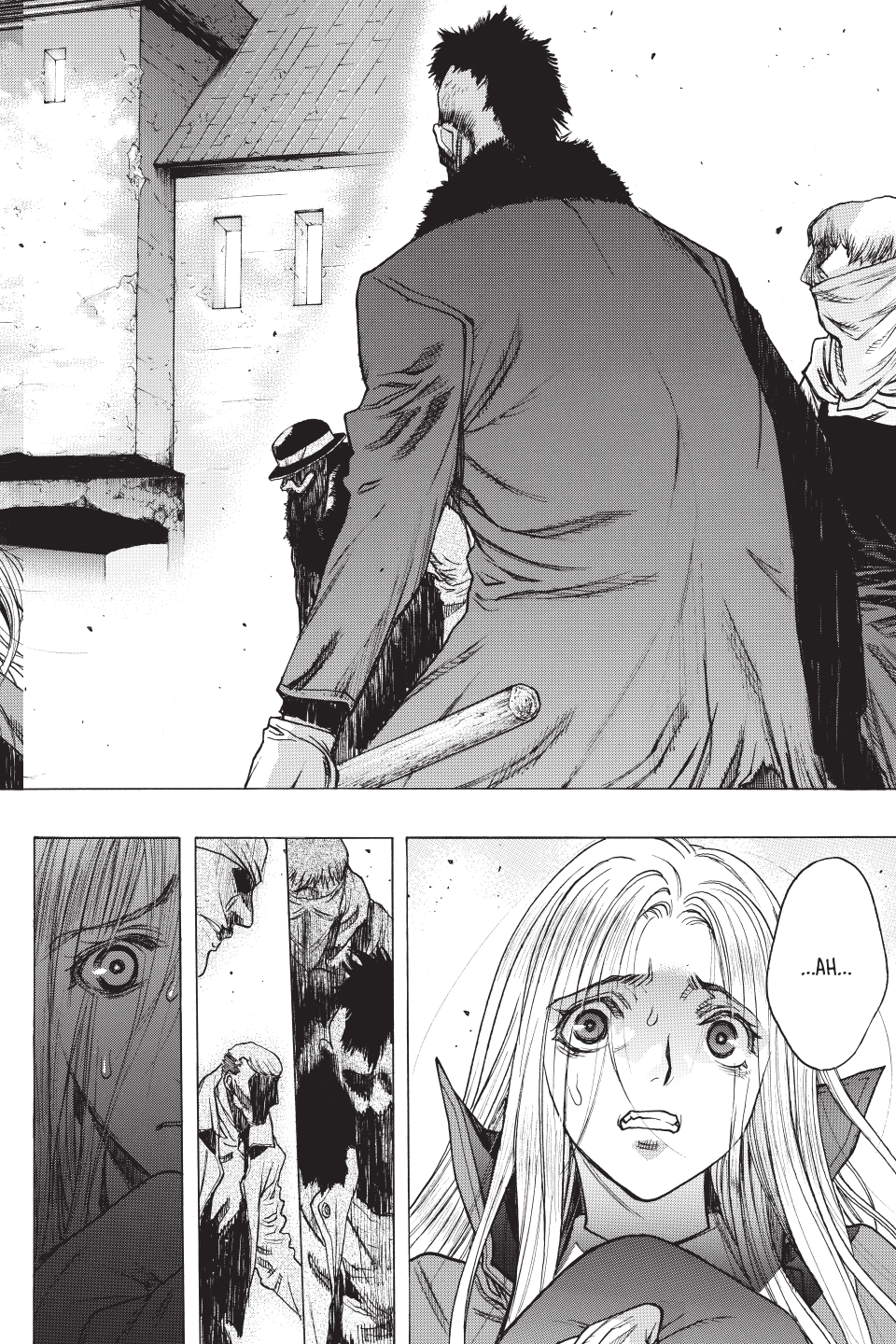
A LAWLESS HELL-SCAPE.

Chapter 34: Town of Eternal Night · End

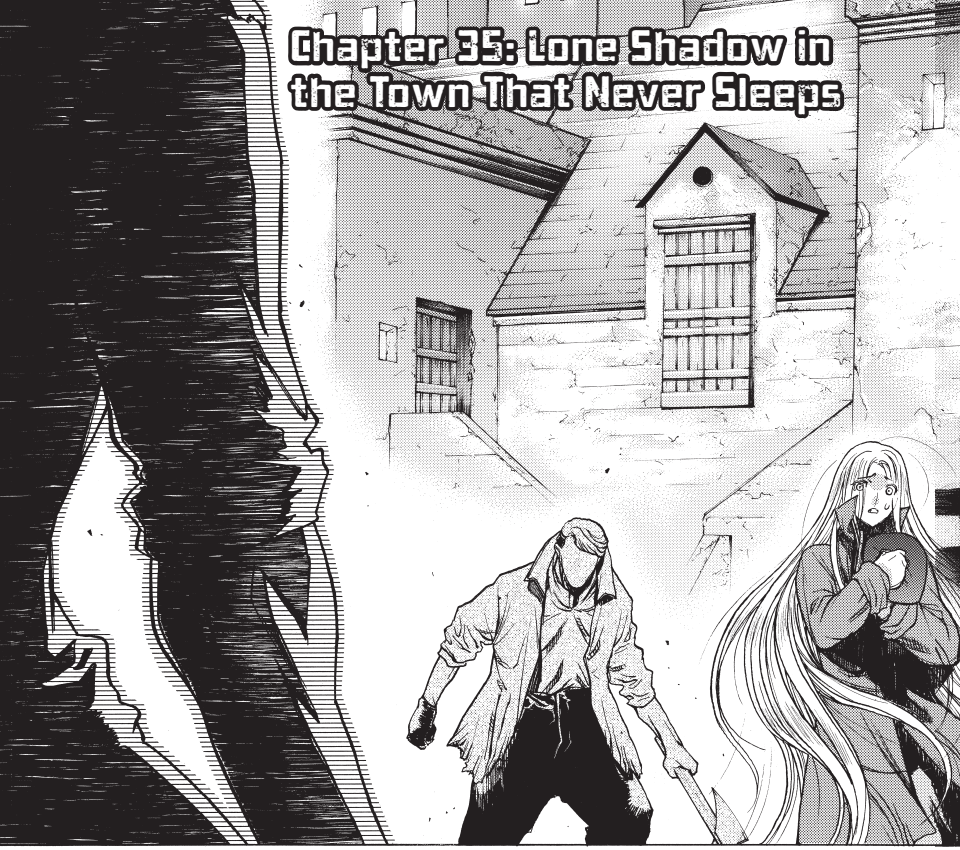
ATTACK
ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL

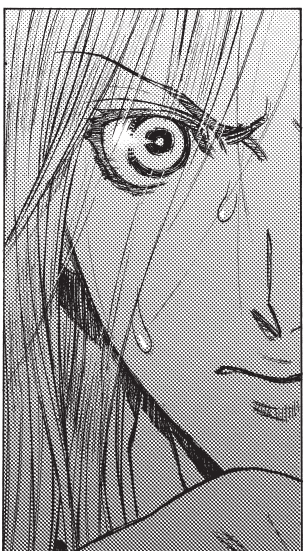




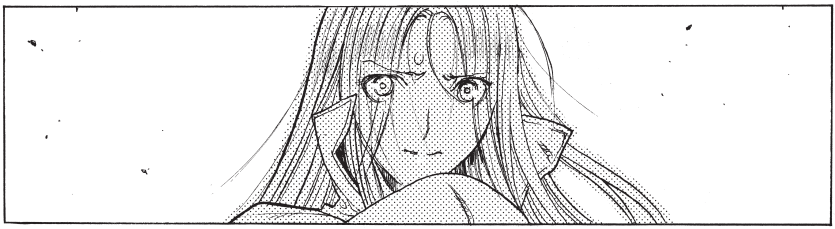

...AH...

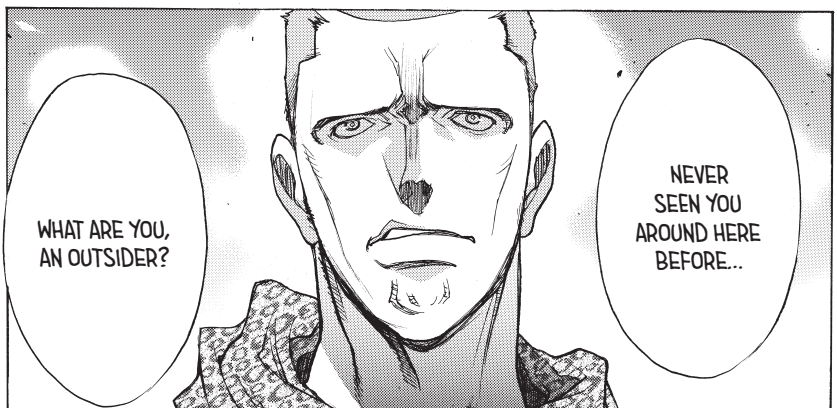
Chapter 35: Lone Shadow in the Town That Never Sleeps

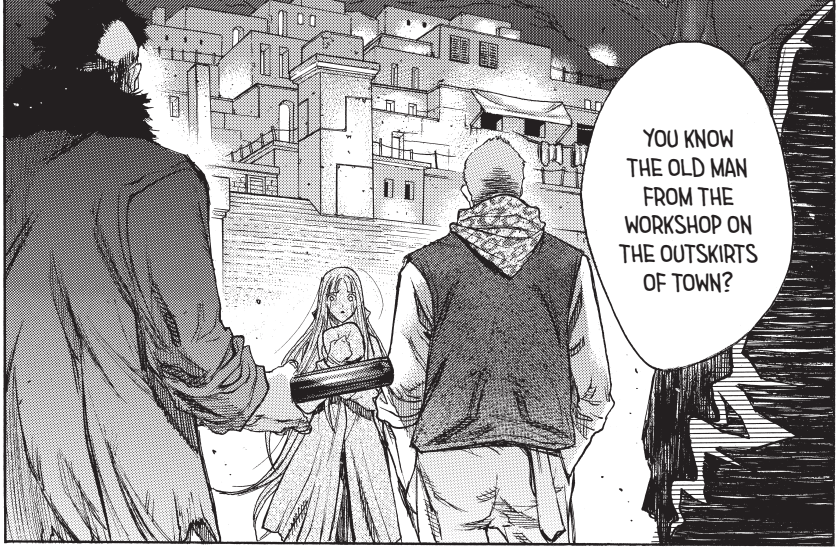


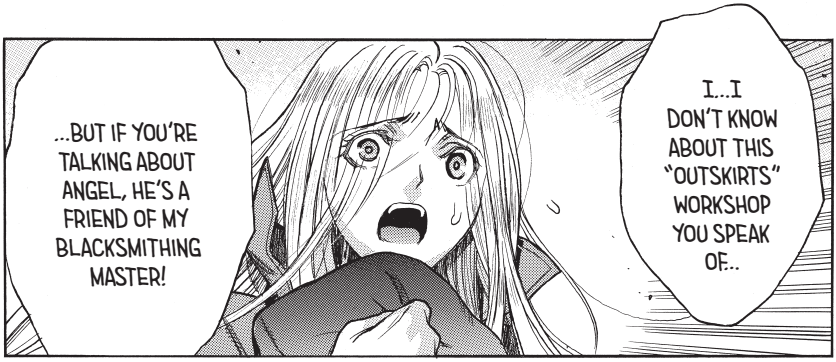


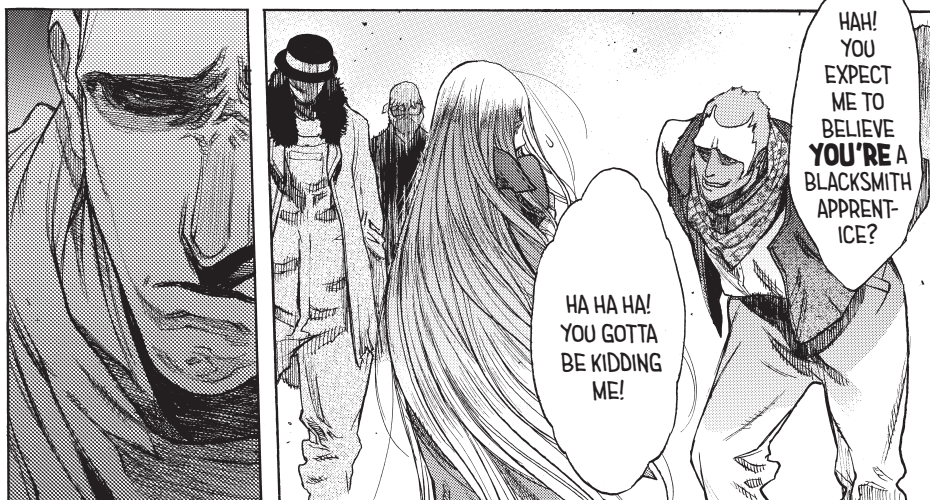
ANYONE HERE SEEN ANGEL?!
HE...HE SHOULD HAVE HEADED...
...RIGHT THROUGH HERE...!
HEH HEH HEH! YOU TRY TO OVERCOME YOUR FEAR BY ASKING US QUESTIONS?
IT'S AN EFFECTIVE TACTIC, I'LL ADMIT.



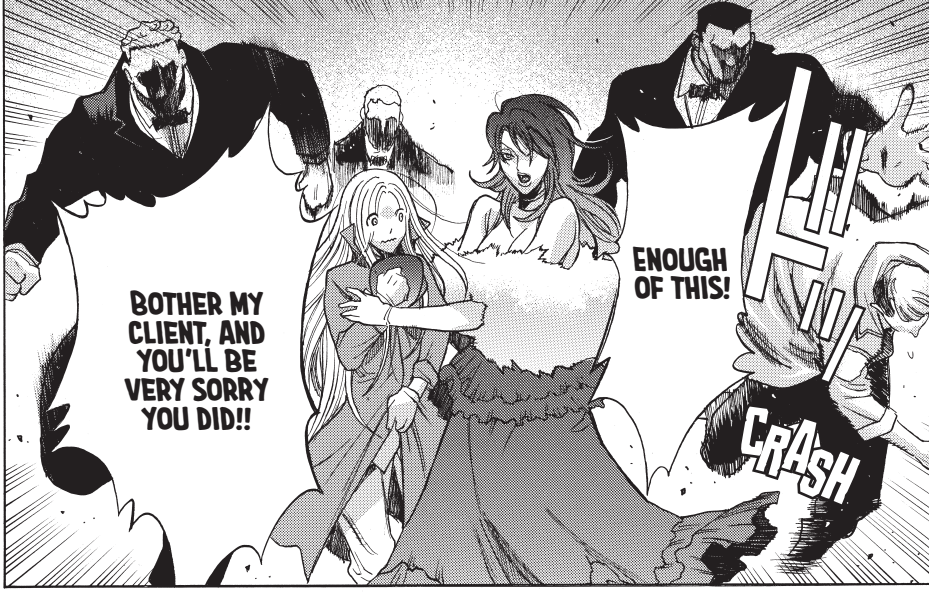

WHAT ARE YOU, AN OUTSIDER?
NEVER SEEN YOU AROUND HERE BEFORE...

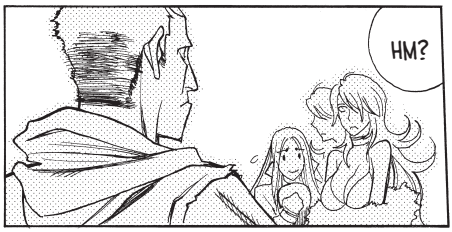

YOU KNOW THE OLD MAN FROM THE WORKSHOP ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN?

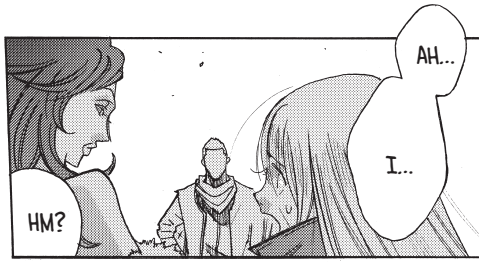

I...I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS "OUTSKIRTS" WORKSHOP YOU SPEAK OF...
...BUT IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ANGEL, HE'S A FRIEND OF MY BLACKSMITHING MASTER!

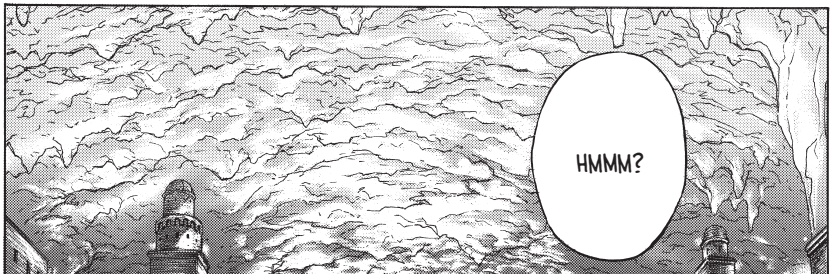

HAH! YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE **YOU'RE** A BLACKSMITH APPRENTICE?
HA HA HA! YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!

THE WORKSHOP ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN IS A RUN-DOWN LITTLE DUMP OPERATED BY A GUY NAMED ANGEL.
IF THAT'S THE GUY YOU WANT, HE JUST...
STOP RIGHT THERE!!
ドカドカ
STOMP STOMP STOMP
ドカ

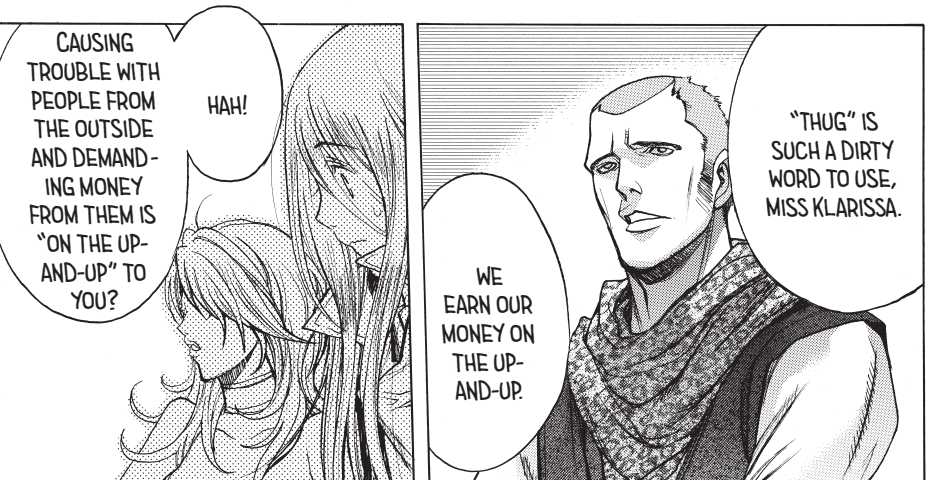

BOTHER MY CLIENT, AND YOU'LL BE VERY SORRY YOU DID!!
ENOUGH OF THIS!
CRASH

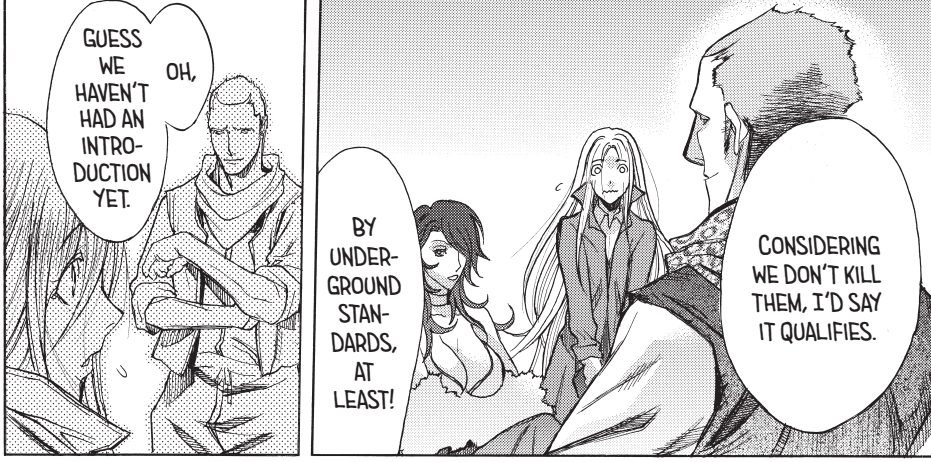

HM?

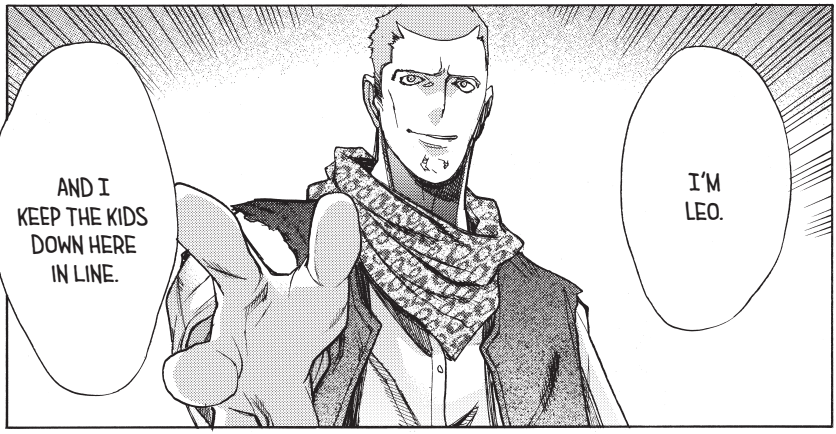

AH...
I...
HM?

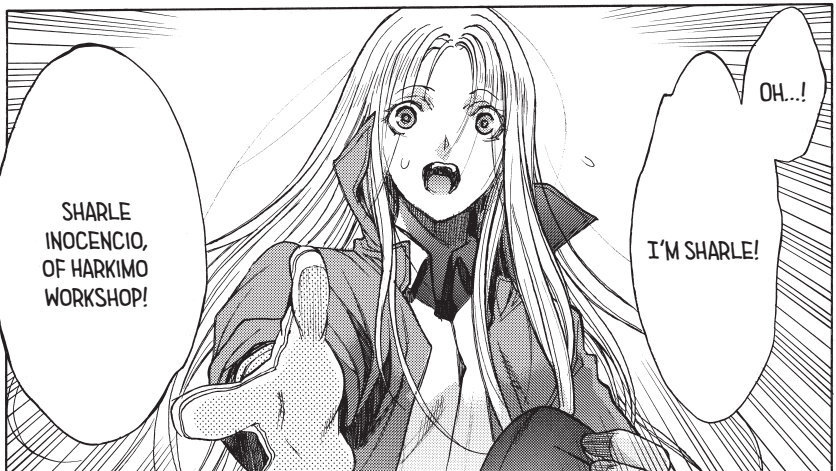

HMMM?

THIS IS THE LEADER OF A GROUP OF THUGS THAT LIKE TO THINK THEY HOLD TERRITORY AROUND HERE.


"THUG" IS SUCH A DIRTY WORD TO USE, MISS KLARISSA.
WE EARN OUR MONEY ON THE UP-AND-UP.
HAH!
CAUSING TROUBLE WITH PEOPLE FROM THE OUTSIDE AND DEMAND-ING MONEY FROM THEM IS "ON THE UP-AND-UP" TO YOU?


GUESS WE HAVEN'T HAD AN INTRO-DUCTION YET.
OH,
BY UNDER-GROUND STAN-DARDS, AT LEAST!
CONSIDERING WE DON'T KILL THEM, I'D SAY IT QUALIFIES.

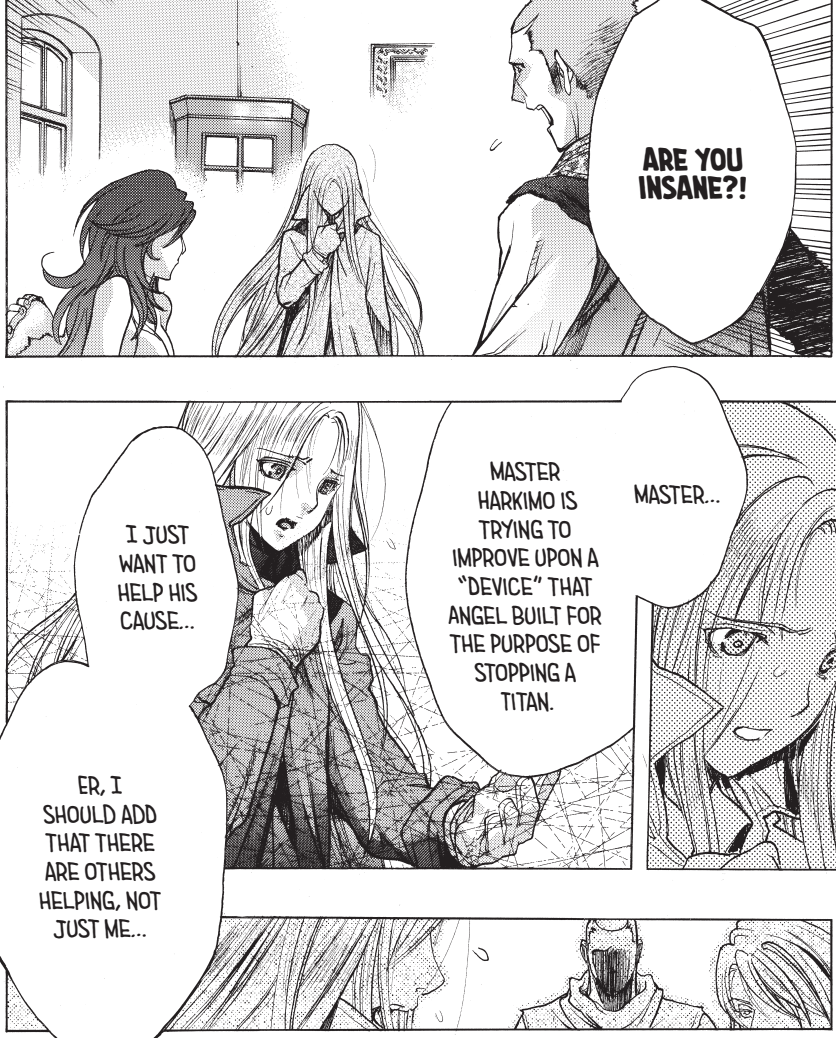

AND I KEEP THE KIDS DOWN HERE IN LINE.
I'M LEO.

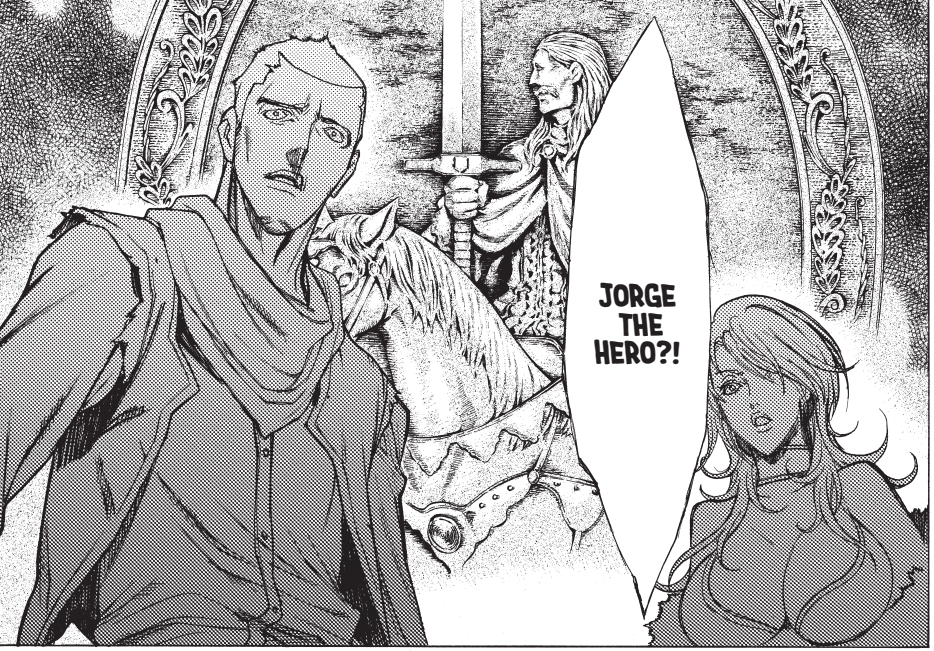

SHARLE INOCENCIO, OF HARKIMO WORKSHOP!
OH...!
I'M SHARLE!

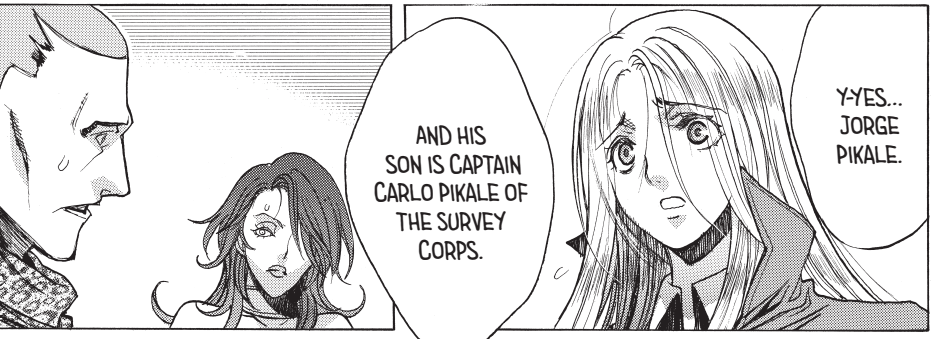
HMMM...
HARKIMO, YOU SAY.
AND THIS HARKIMO IS A PAL OF OLD ANGEL'S?
TO CONTINUE FROM EARLIER...
...WE DID RUN INTO HIM. WELL, PAST HIM...
WHAT?! THEN WE SHOULD GO...
NOW HANG ON! THERE'S NO RUSH.
I CALLED OUT TO HIM, BUT HE JUST WALKED PAST WITHOUT A WORD.
THAT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM USUAL, THOUGH.
BASED ON THE DIRECTION, I'D BET HE WAS GOING BACK TO HIS WORKSHOP.

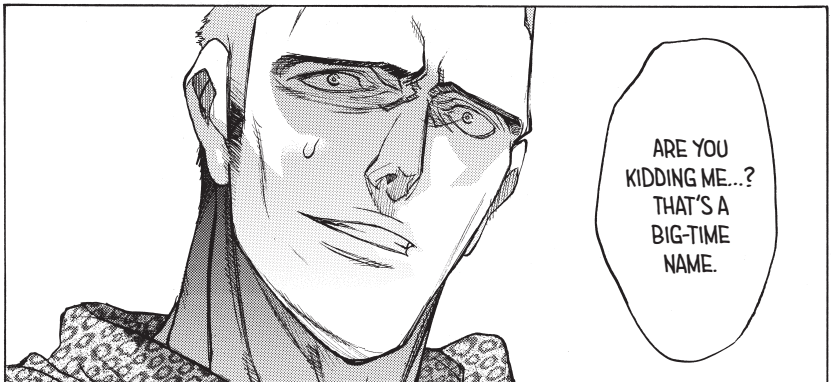
I HAVE TO MAKE SURE...
PLEASE, TELL ME WHERE TO FIND IT!
P...
I NEED TO KNOW WHAT I SAID TO MAKE HIM ANGRY...
I NEED...TO APOLOGIZE TO HIM...AND MAKE THINGS RIGHT.
AND YOU NEEDED ANGEL'S HELP WITH SOMETHING, DIDN'T YOU?

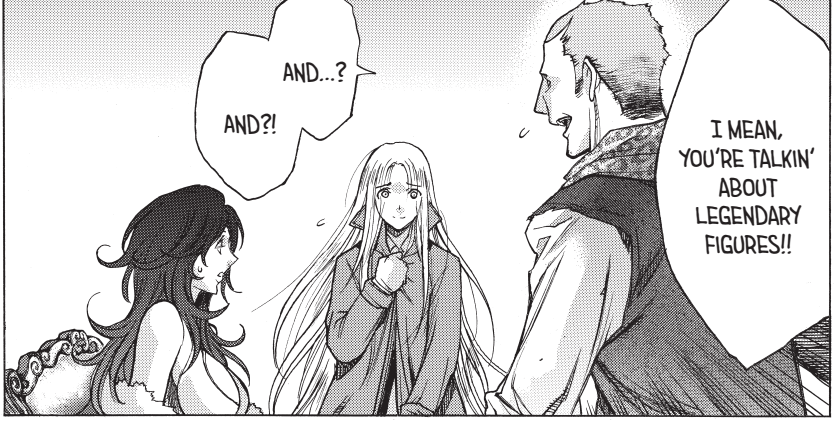
TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE TITANS.
TO FIGHT ...
...THE TITANS ?!?


ARE YOU INSANE?!
MASTER...
MASTER HARKIMO IS TRYING TO IMPROVE UPON A "DEVICE" THAT ANGEL BUILT FOR THE PURPOSE OF STOPPING A TITAN.
I JUST WANT TO HELP HIS CAUSE...
ER, I SHOULD ADD THAT THERE ARE OTHERS HELPING, NOT JUST ME...
THERE'S JORGE, AND CARLO AND THE OTHERS WITH THE SURVEY CORPS...
WAIT...
WAIT, LITTLE GIRL!
WHEN YOU SAY "JORGE," DO YOU MEAN...


JORGE THE HERO?!

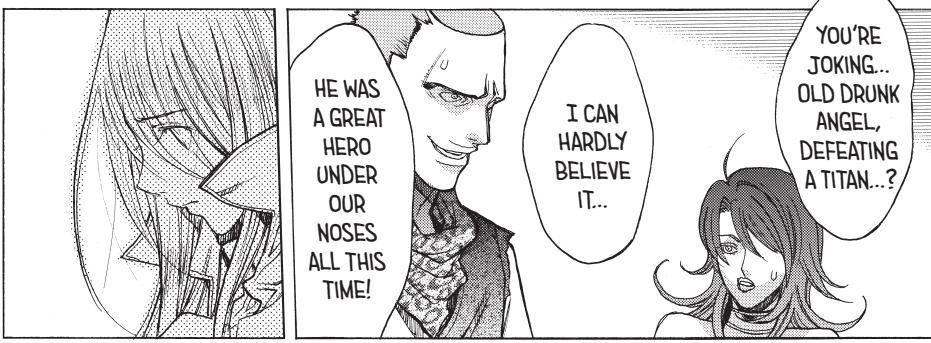

Y-YES... JORGE PIKALE.
AND HIS SON IS CAPTAIN CARLO PIKALE OF THE SURVEY CORPS.


ARE YOU KIDDING ME...? THAT'S A BIG-TIME NAME.


AND...?
AND?!
I MEAN, YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT LEGENDARY FIGURES!!

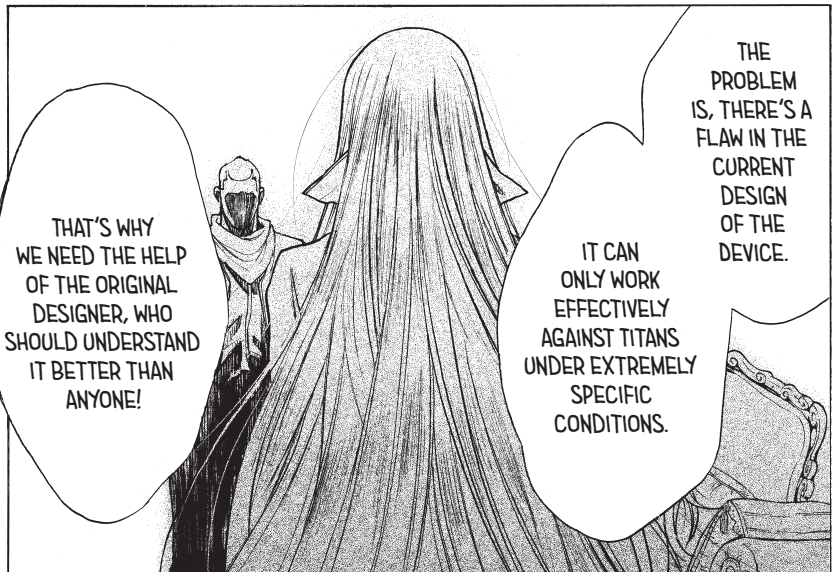
15 YEARS AGO...
ANGEL TOOK PART IN JORGE'S FINAL EXPEDITION, AS THE DEVELOPER OF THE DEVICE THEY WERE TESTING...

IT WAS ANGEL HIMSELF WHO ACTUALLY USED IT TO TOPPLE THE FIRST TITAN.

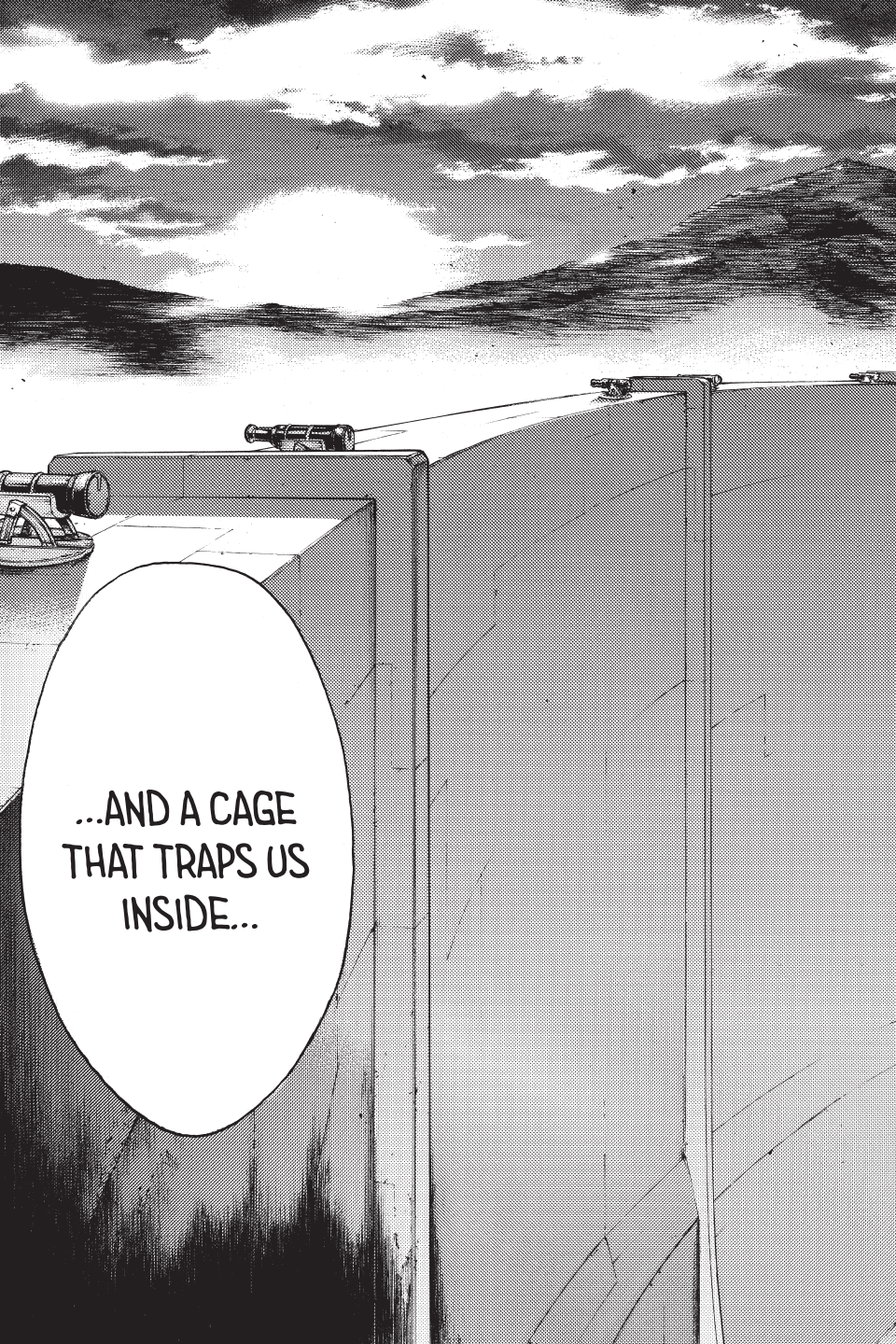

YOU'RE JOKING... OLD DRUNK ANGEL, DEFEATING A TITAN...?
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT...
HE WAS A GREAT HERO UNDER OUR NOSES ALL THIS TIME!

AT LONG LAST, JORGE'S HOPES CAME TRUE THIS YEAR, AS THEY ANNOUNCED THAT EXPEDITIONS BEYOND THE WALL WOULD RESUME...
BUT THEN THE VERY FIRST TRIP OUT ENDED IN DISASTER...
I'VE HEARD ABOUT THAT FROM A JOHN.
HE SAID IT PRACTICALLY WIPED OUT THE SURVEY CORPS.

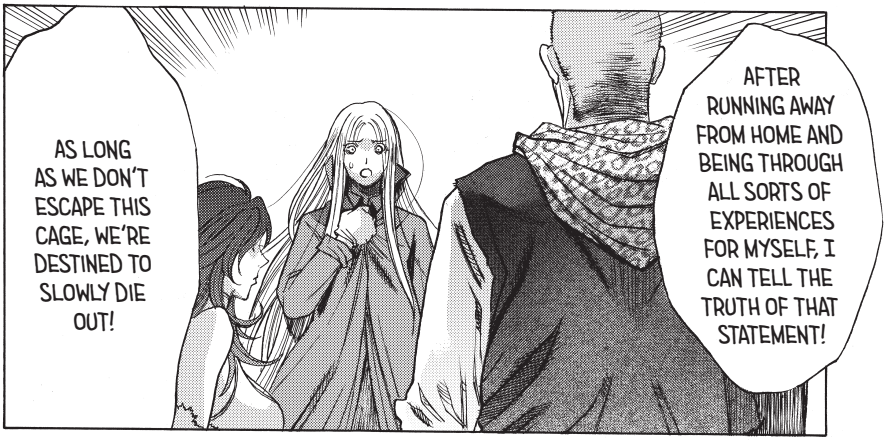
CAPTAIN CARLO IS PLANNING A SECOND EXPEDITION, BUT IF THIS ONE FAILS, THEY MIGHT NEVER VENTURE BEYOND THE WALLS AGAIN.
YOU MEAN THE SURVEY CORPS CAME BACK?!
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THIS!

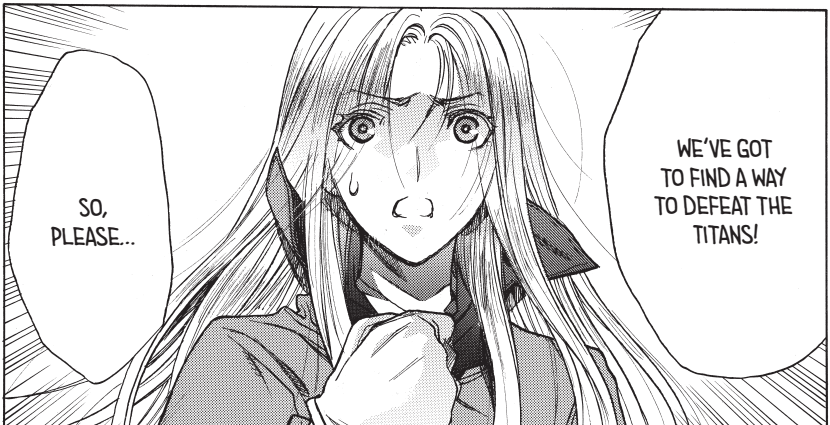

THE PROBLEM IS, THERE'S A FLAW IN THE CURRENT DESIGN OF THE DEVICE.
IT CAN ONLY WORK EFFECTIVELY AGAINST TITANS UNDER EXTREMELY SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.
THAT'S WHY WE NEED THE HELP OF THE ORIGINAL DESIGNER, WHO SHOULD UNDERSTAND IT BETTER THAN ANYONE!

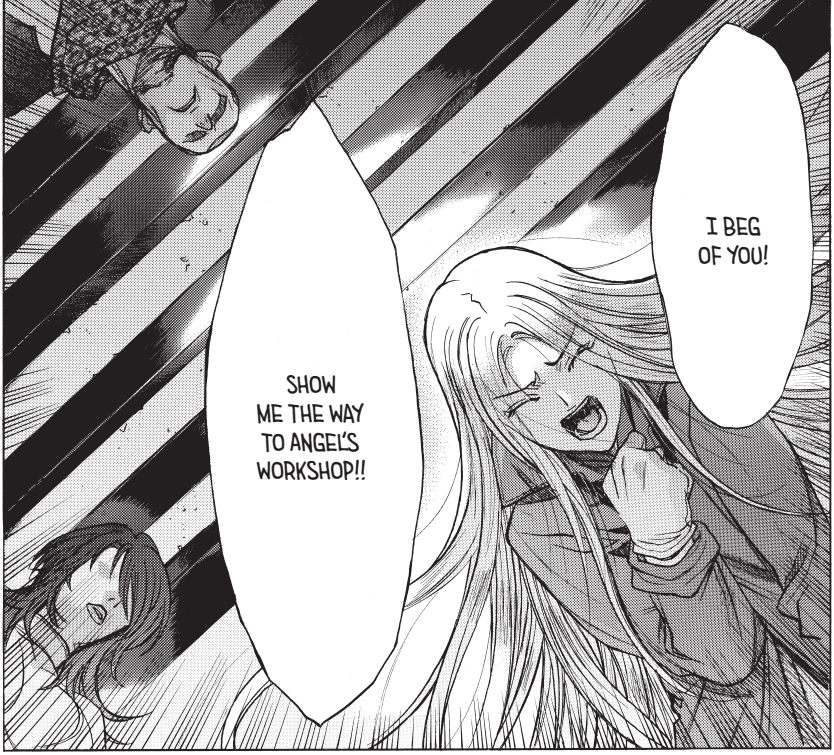
WALL MARIA...
THE WALL IS BOTH A SHIELD THAT PROTECTS ALL OF HUMANITY...

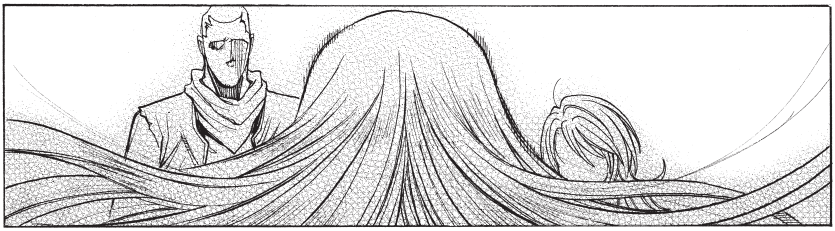

...AND A CAGE THAT TRAPS US INSIDE...

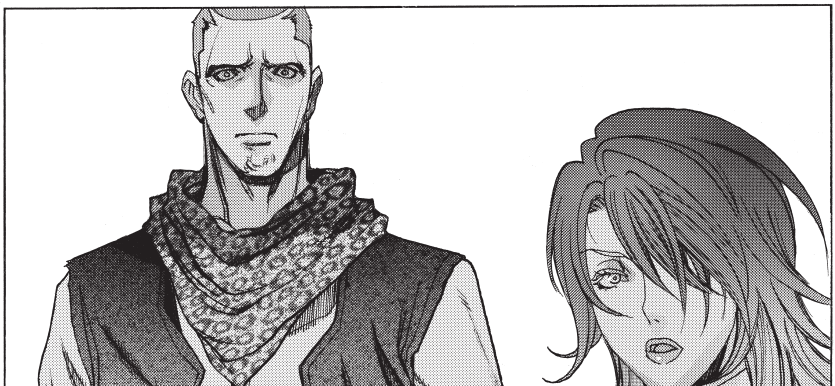
BUT...
JORGE SCOUTED HIM TO JOIN THE SURVEY CORPS.
OH... THAT'S A QUOTE OF SORTS FROM A GOOD...FRIEND OF MINE... NAMED KUKLO...

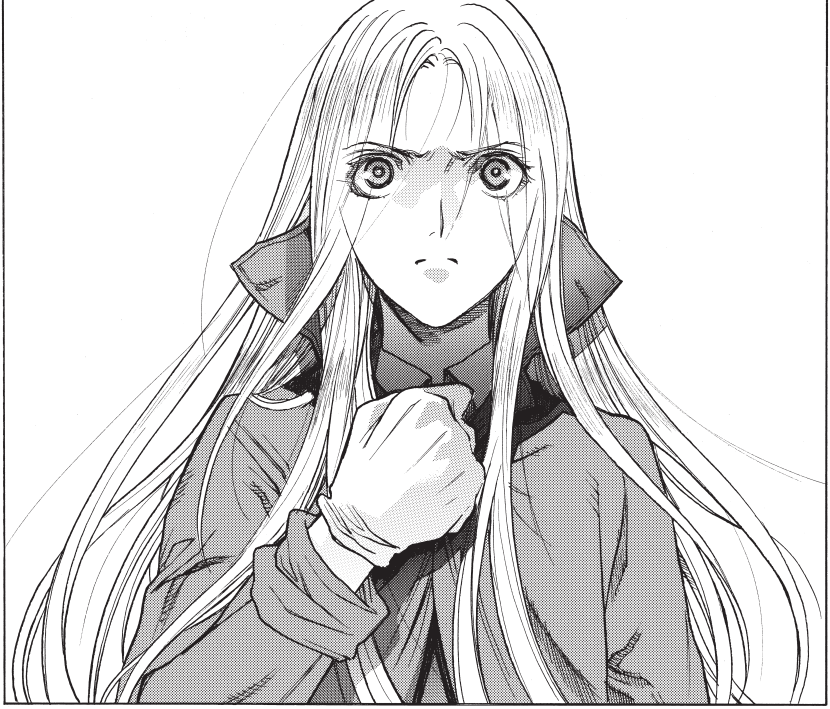

AS LONG AS WE DON'T ESCAPE THIS CAGE, WE'RE DESTINED TO SLOWLY DIE OUT!
AFTER RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME AND BEING THROUGH ALL SORTS OF EXPERIENCES FOR MYSELF, I CAN TELL THE TRUTH OF THAT STATEMENT!

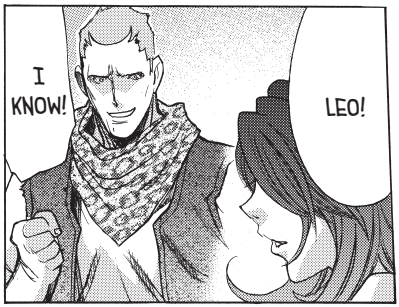

SO, PLEASE...
WE'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO DEFEAT THE TITANS!

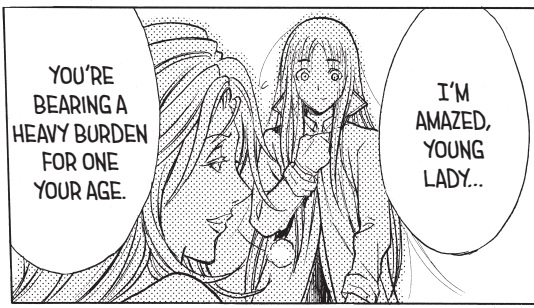

I BEG OF YOU!
SHOW ME THE WAY TO ANGEL'S WORKSHOP!!

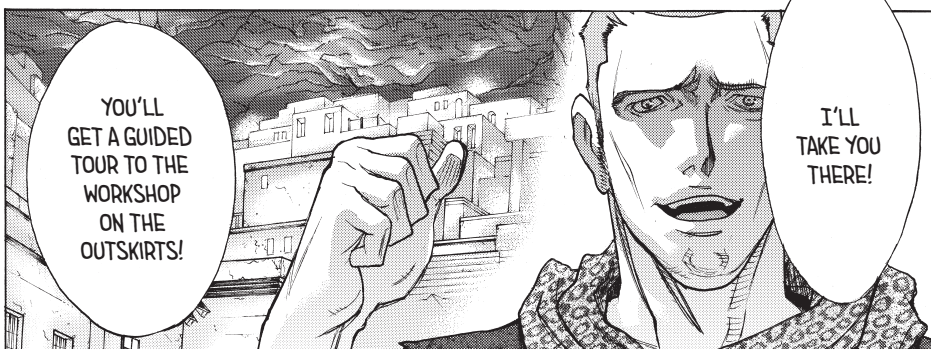


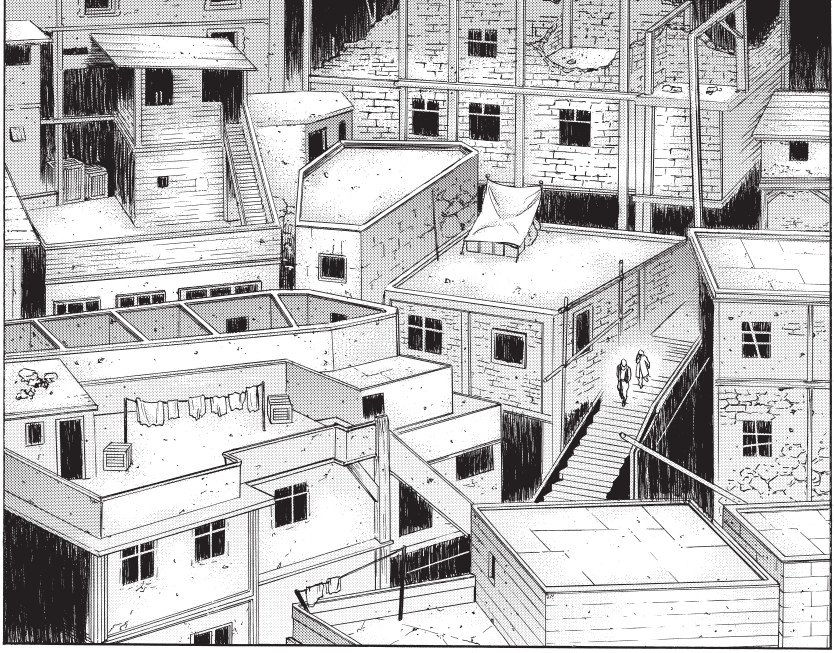


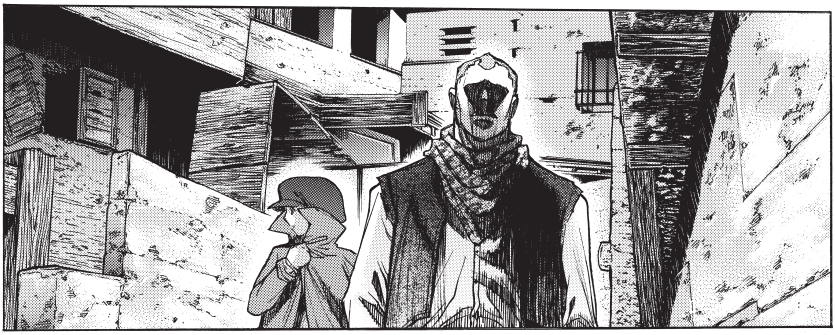


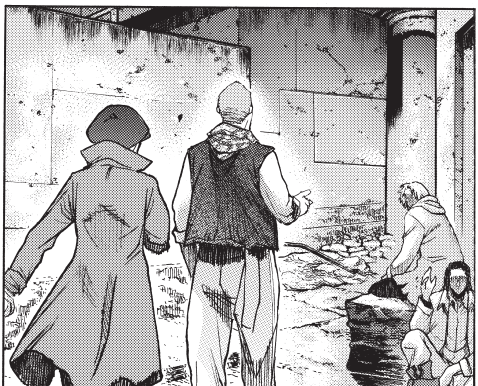

I KNOW!
LEO!


YOU'RE BEARING A HEAVY BURDEN FOR ONE YOUR AGE.
I'M AMAZED, YOUNG LADY...

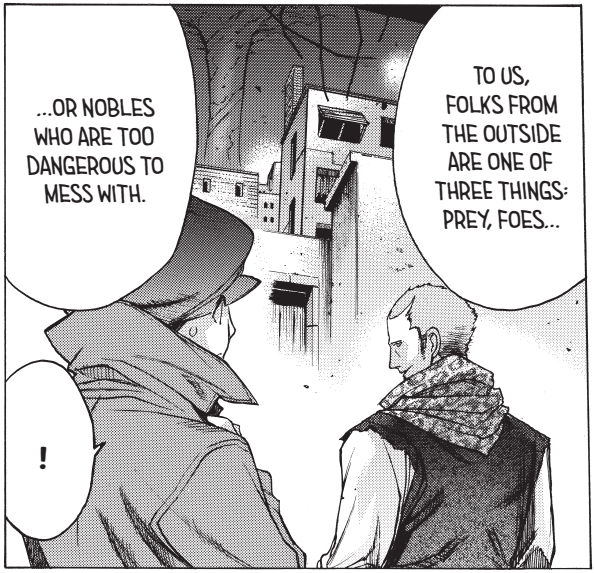

YOU'LL GET A GUIDED TOUR TO THE WORKSHOP ON THE OUTSKIRTS!
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE!



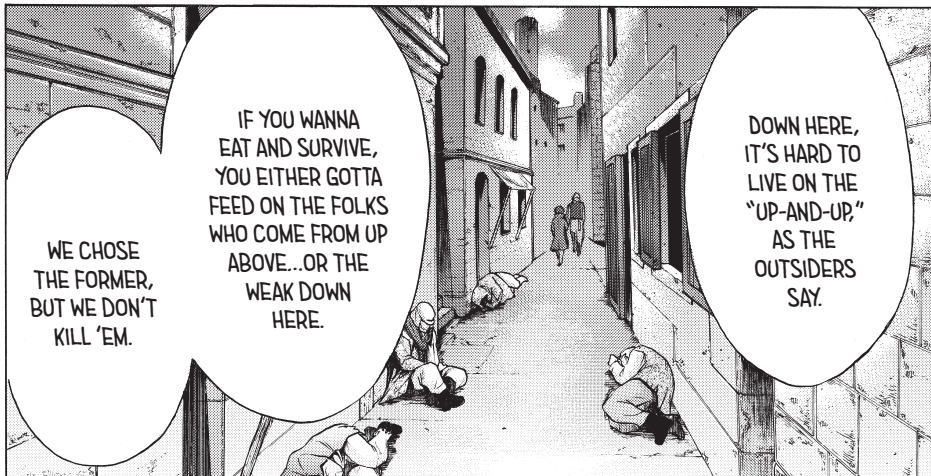




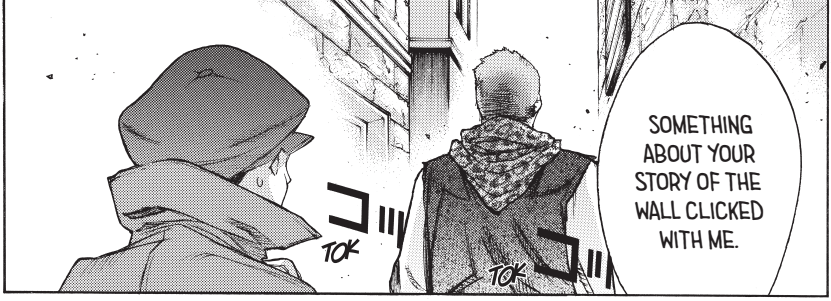
THEY'RE ALL PALS OF MINE.

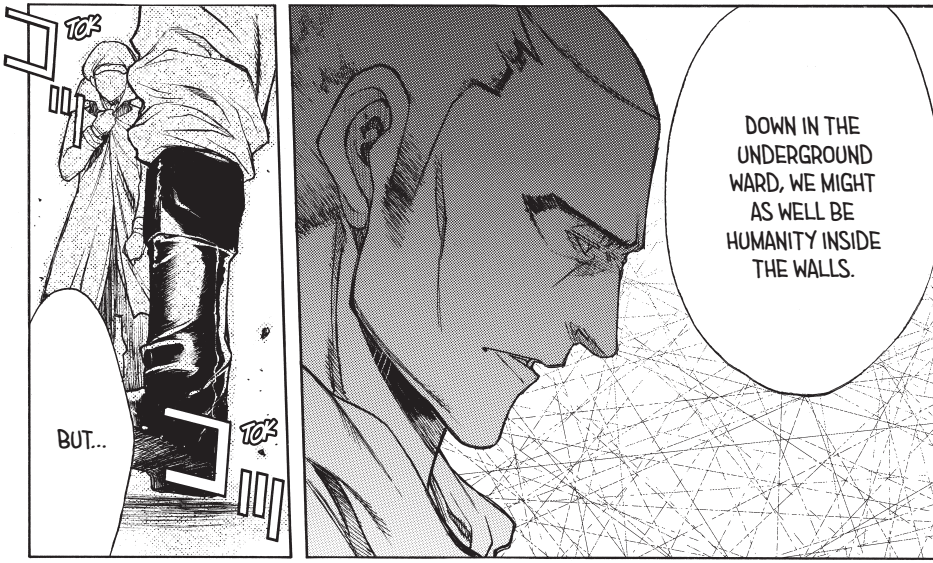

...OR NOBLES WHO ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO MESS WITH.
TO US, FOLKS FROM THE OUTSIDE ARE ONE OF THREE THINGS: PREY, FOES...
!

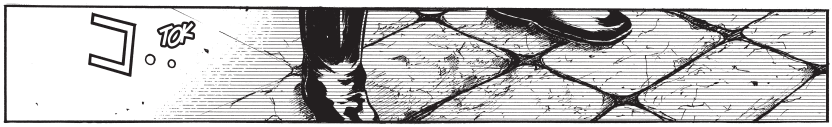
THE ONLY REASON THEY'RE NOT TALKING TO ME IS BECAUSE THEY'RE CAUTIOUS AROUND AN OUTSIDER LIKE YOU.

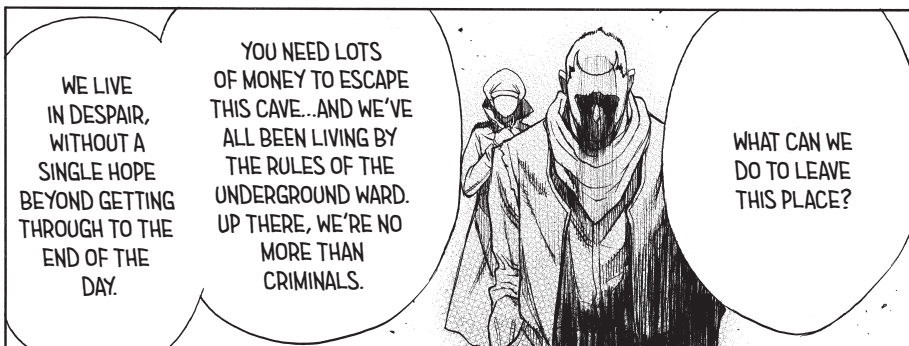

WE CHOSE THE FORMER, BUT WE DON'T KILL 'EM.
IF YOU WANNA EAT AND SURVIVE, YOU EITHER GOTTA FEED ON THE FOLKS WHO COME FROM UP ABOVE...OR THE WEAK DOWN HERE.
DOWN HERE, IT'S HARD TO LIVE ON THE "UP-AND-UP," AS THE OUTSIDERS SAY.

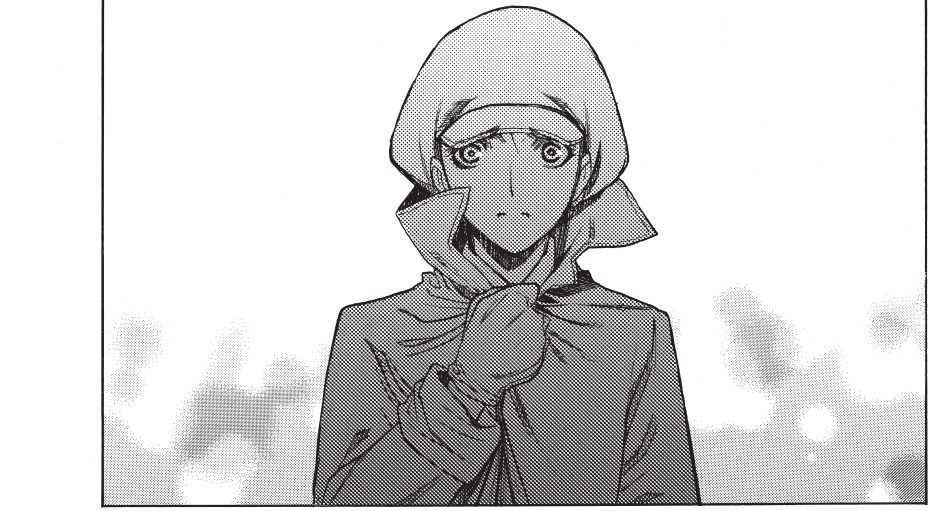
WHICH MAKES US **HONORABLE**, DON'T IT?
!
YOU SAW THOSE GUYS LYING IN THE STREET BACK THERE?
...
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO CAN'T WALK FROM SICKNESS— PROBABLY BECAUSE THERE'S NO SUNLIGHT DOWN HERE.
ONCE YOU'RE SICK, THERE'S NO WAY TO LIVE ASIDE FROM BEGGING, SO THEY GO TO THE MAIN STREET TO DO IT.
THEY ALL END UP DYING, BECAUSE THE TYPE OF FOLKS WHO COME DOWN HERE FOR PLEASURE AREN'T THE KIND TO PROVIDE HELP TO THE NEEDY.
NOBODY DOWN HERE IS GONNA SAVE YOU.
THE ONLY THING YOU CAN DO IS SAVE YOURSELF.

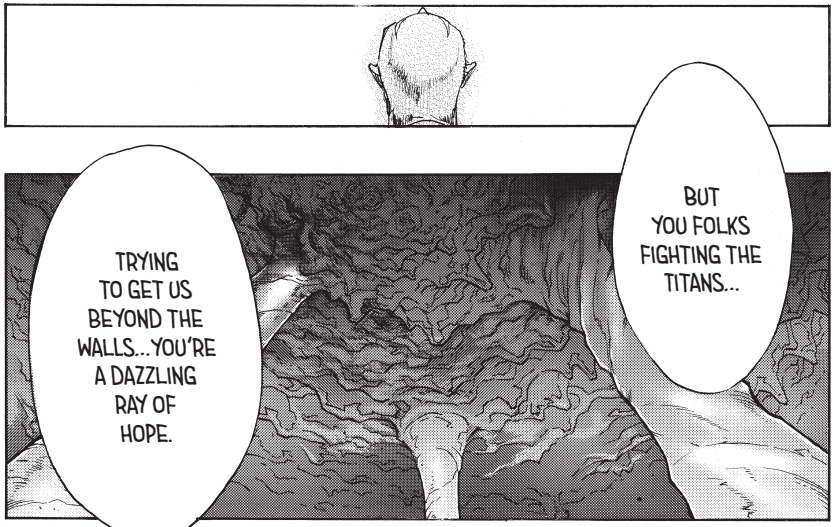

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR STORY OF THE WALL CLICKED WITH ME.
TOK
TOK


TOK
BUT...
TOK
DOWN IN THE UNDERGROUND WARD, WE MIGHT AS WELL BE HUMANITY INSIDE THE WALLS.

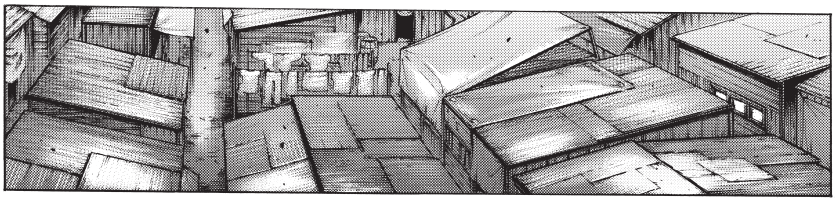

TOK

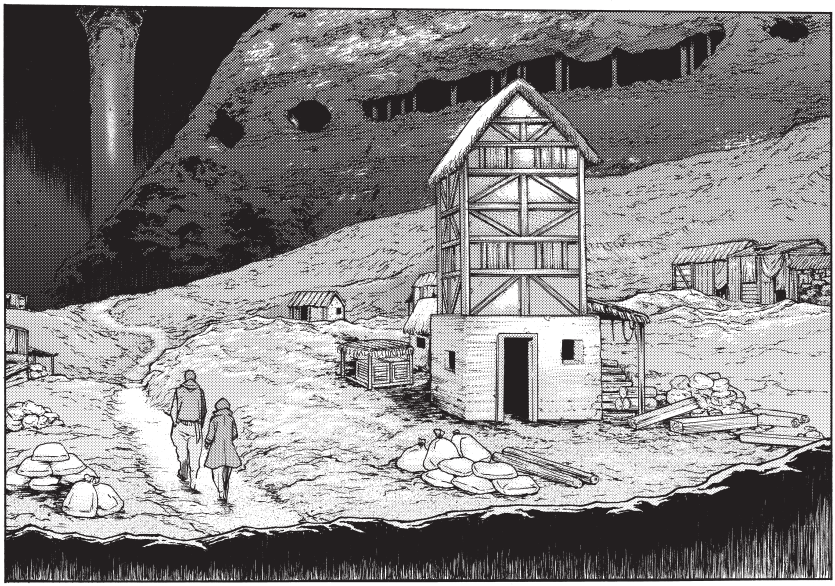

WE LIVE IN DESPAIR, WITHOUT A SINGLE HOPE BEYOND GETTING THROUGH TO THE END OF THE DAY.
YOU NEED LOTS OF MONEY TO ESCAPE THIS CAVE...AND WE'VE ALL BEEN LIVING BY THE RULES OF THE UNDERGROUND WARD. UP THERE, WE'RE NO MORE THAN CRIMINALS.
WHAT CAN WE DO TO LEAVE THIS PLACE?



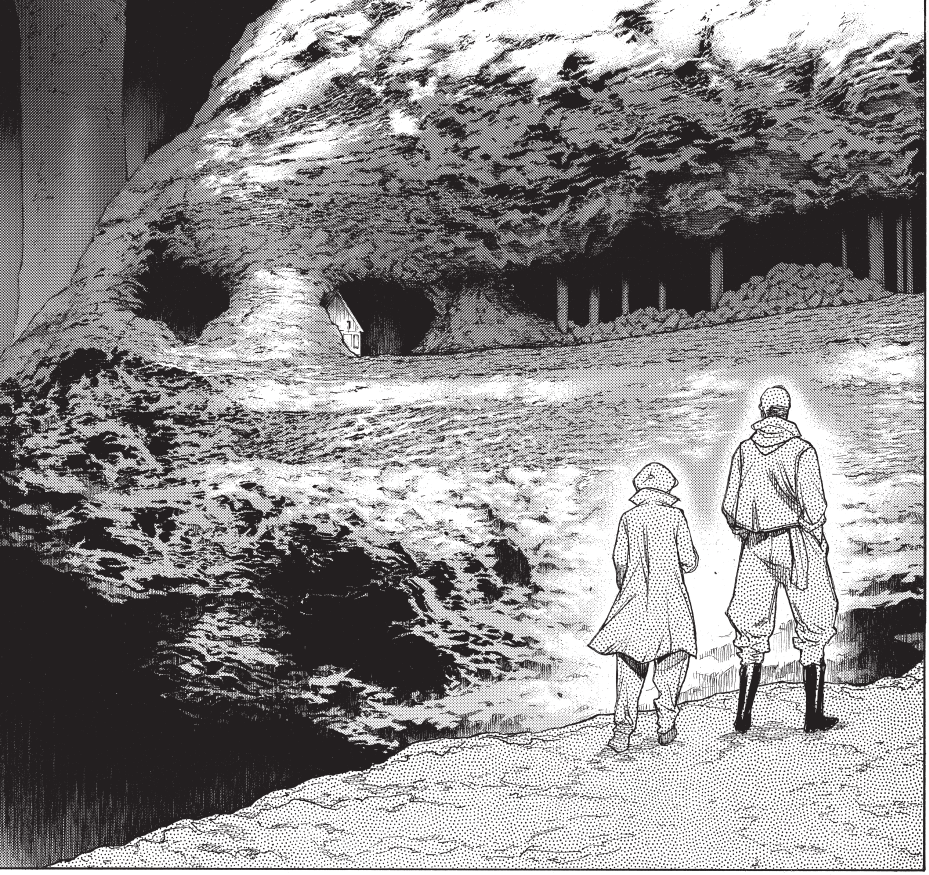

BUT YOU FOLKS FIGHTING THE TITANS...
TRYING TO GET US BEYOND THE WALLS... YOU'RE A DAZZLING RAY OF HOPE.

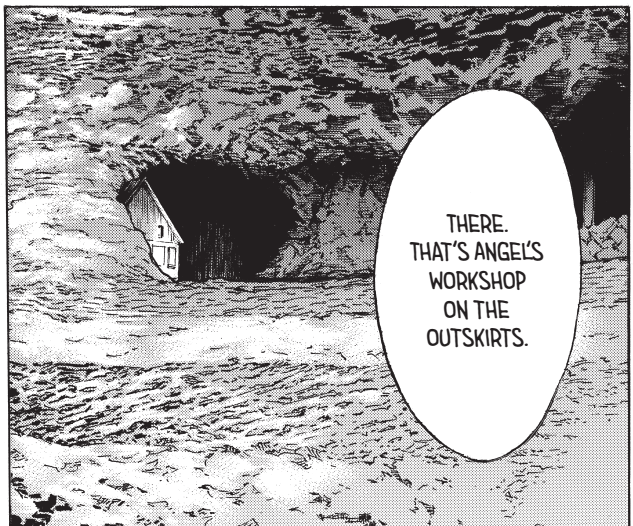
AND THAT'S WHAT MADE ME DECIDE...
...TO HELP YOU OUT IN YOUR QUEST.



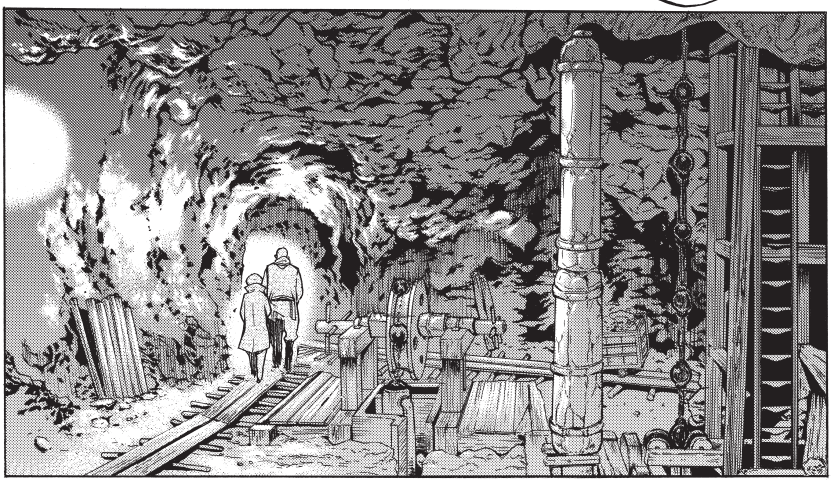


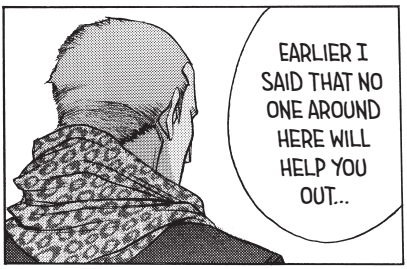
HA HA HA!
HEE HYA HYA!

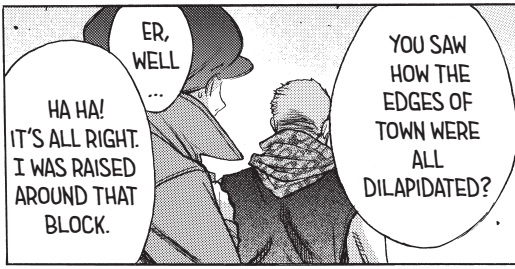


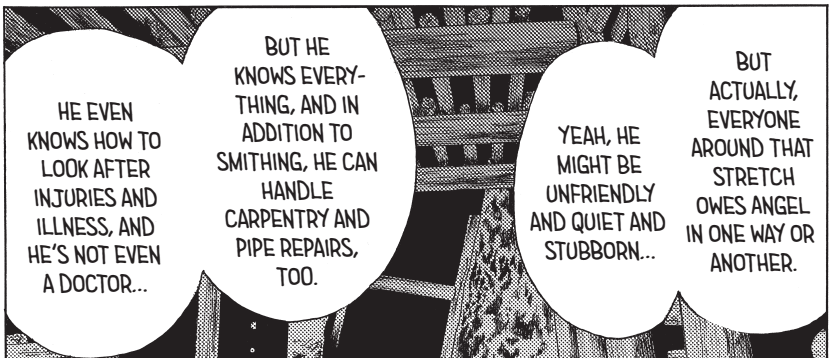

THERE.
THAT'S ANGEL'S
WORKSHOP
ON THE
OUTSKIRTS.

ZZSH
WE'RE NOT QUITE THERE YET, THOUGH. WATCH YOUR STEP.



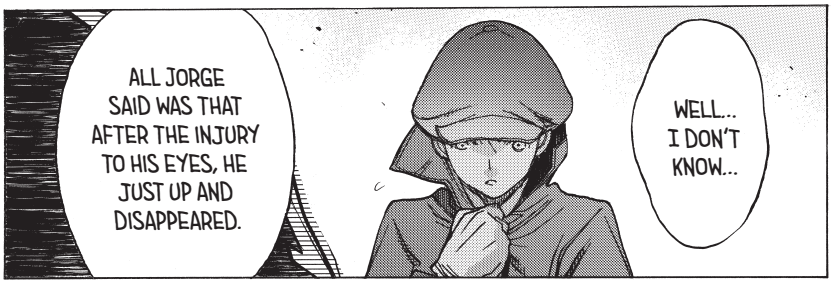

EARLIER I SAID THAT NO ONE AROUND HERE WILL HELP YOU OUT...


ER, WELL ...
HA HA! IT'S ALL RIGHT. I WAS RAISED AROUND THAT BLOCK.
YOU SAW HOW THE EDGES OF TOWN WERE ALL DILAPIDATED?

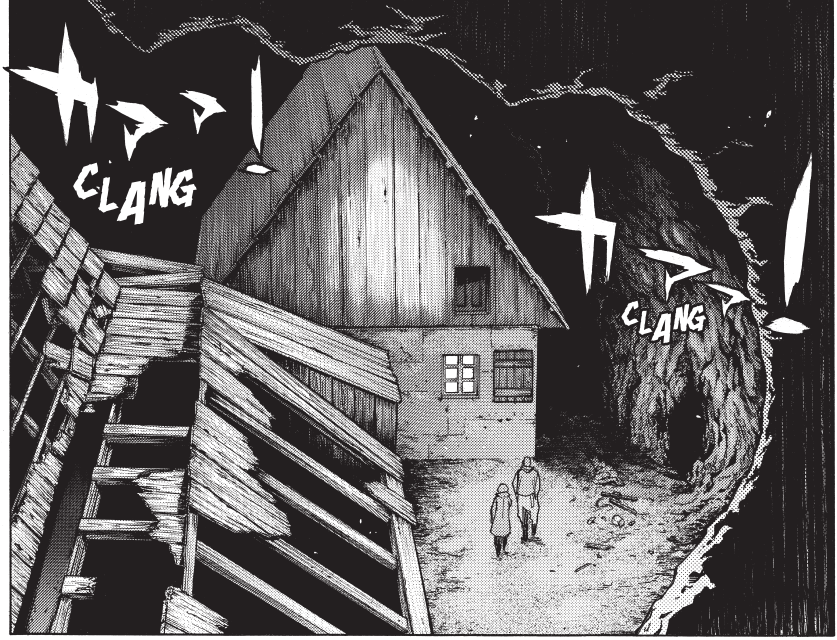

HE EVEN KNOWS HOW TO LOOK AFTER INJURIES AND ILLNESS, AND HE'S NOT EVEN A DOCTOR...
BUT HE KNOWS EVERY-THING, AND IN ADDITION TO SMITHING, HE CAN HANDLE CARPENTRY AND PIPE REPAIRS, TOO.
YEAH, HE MIGHT BE UNFRIENDLY AND QUIET AND STUBBORN...
BUT ACTUALLY, EVERYONE AROUND THAT STRETCH OWES ANGEL IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

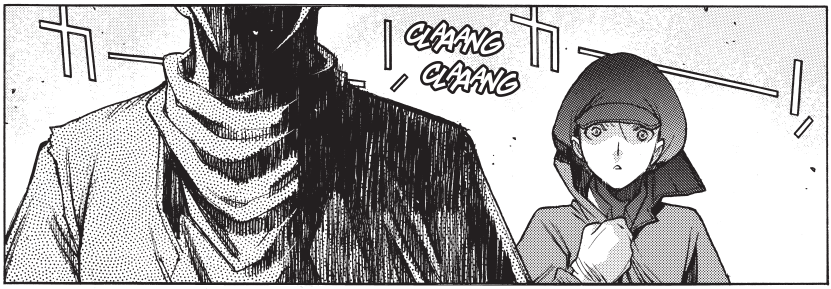
THE ONLY REAL DOCTORS AROUND HERE ARE THE BLACK-MARKET TYPES THAT WORK ON RICH CLIENTS AND WHORES.
HE'S HELPED ME OUT IN ALL KINDS OF WAYS SINCE I WAS A KID.
SO... HE REALLY IS SPECIAL, ISN'T HE?
BUT...I'VE HEARD THAT HE HURT HIS EYES WHEN HE FOUGHT WITH THAT TITAN.

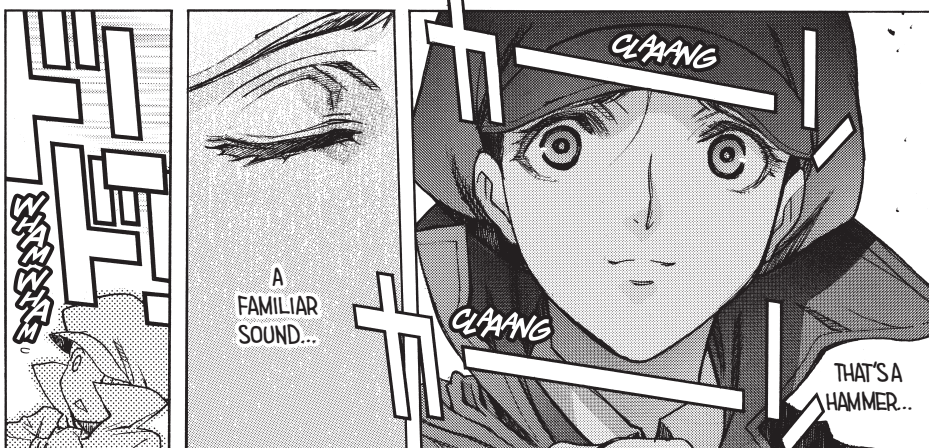
NO KIDDING? SO THE DAMAGE TO HIS SIGHT WAS FROM FIGHTING A TITAN?
APPARENTLY HE CAN MAKE OUT SHAPES AND OUTLINES, BUT THAT'S IT.
MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE WOUND UP DOWN HERE...

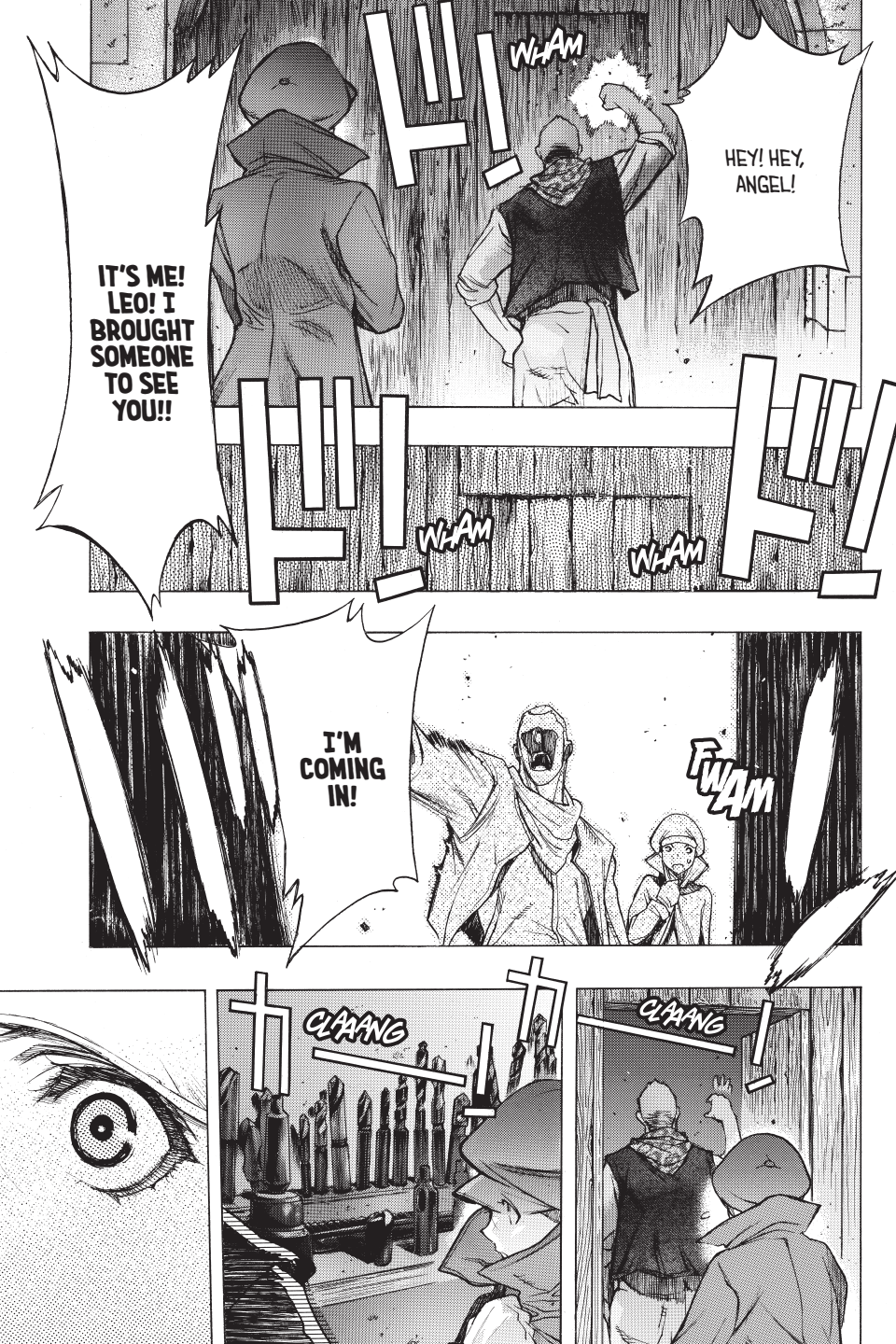

WELL... I DON'T KNOW...
ALL JORGE SAID WAS THAT AFTER THE INJURY TO HIS EYES, HE JUST UP AND DISAPPEARED.

CLANG!
CLANG!

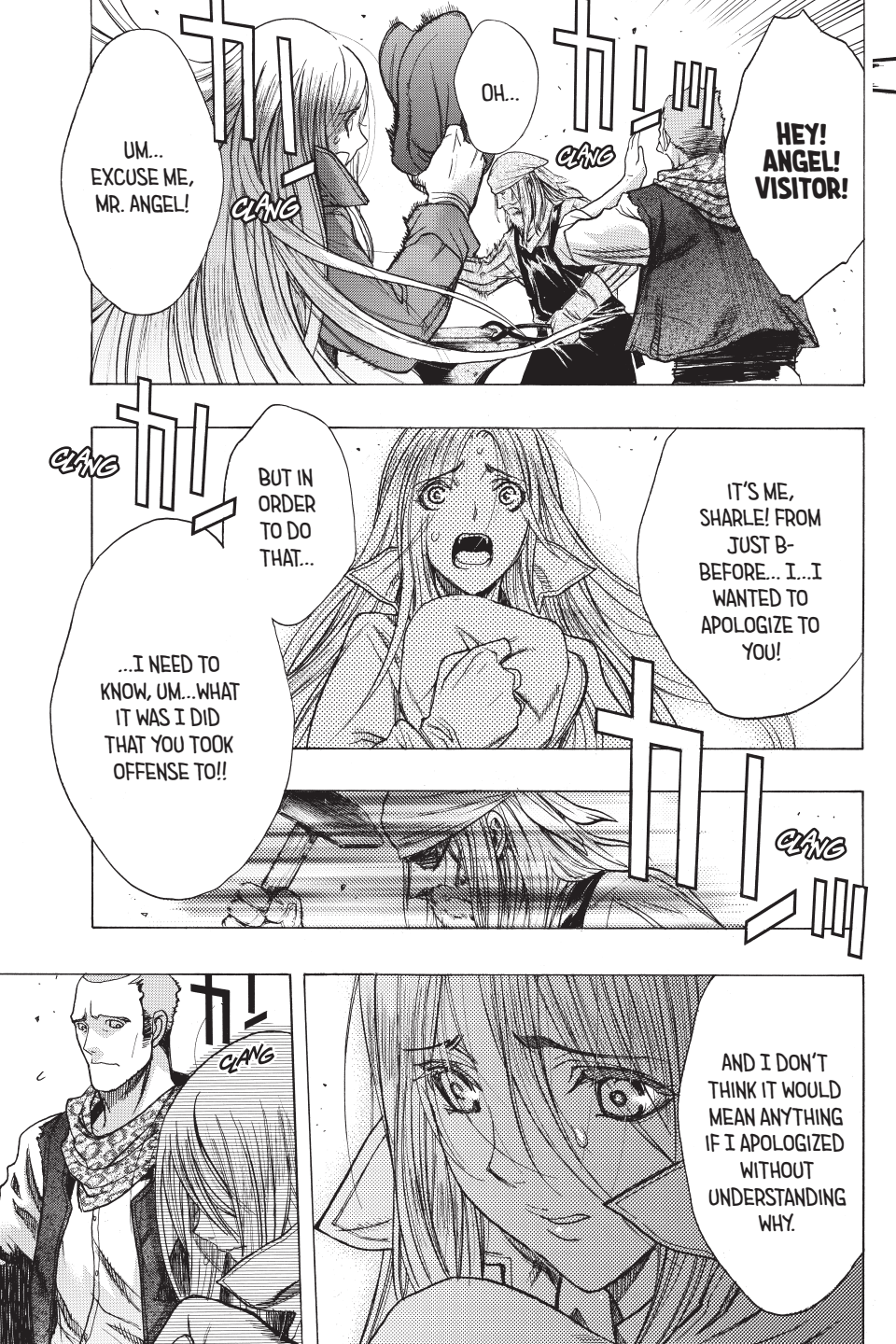

CLANG
CLANG

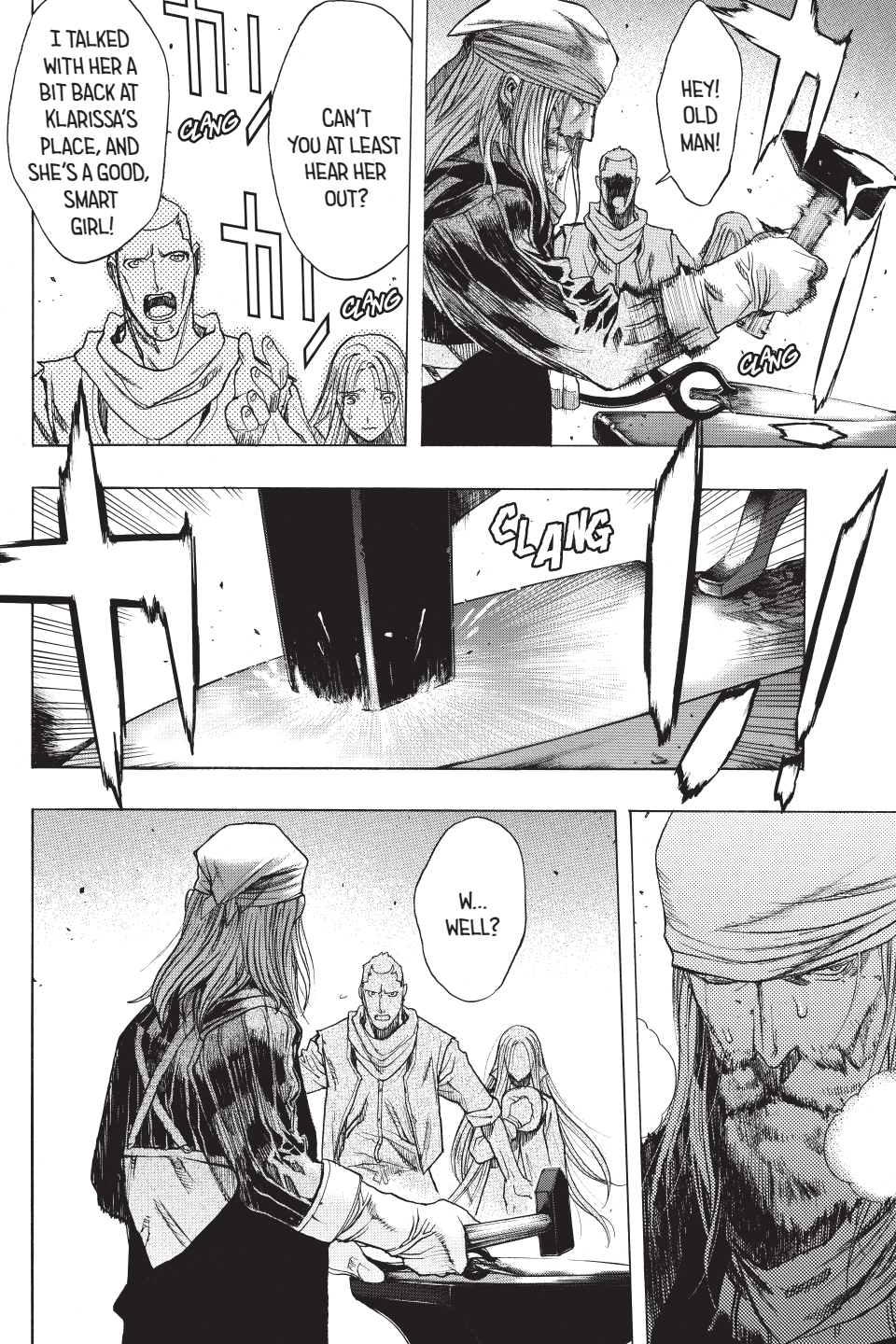

CLAAANG
CLAAANG


WAAAA
A FAMILIAR SOUND...
CLAAANG
CLAAANG
THAT'S A HAMMER...

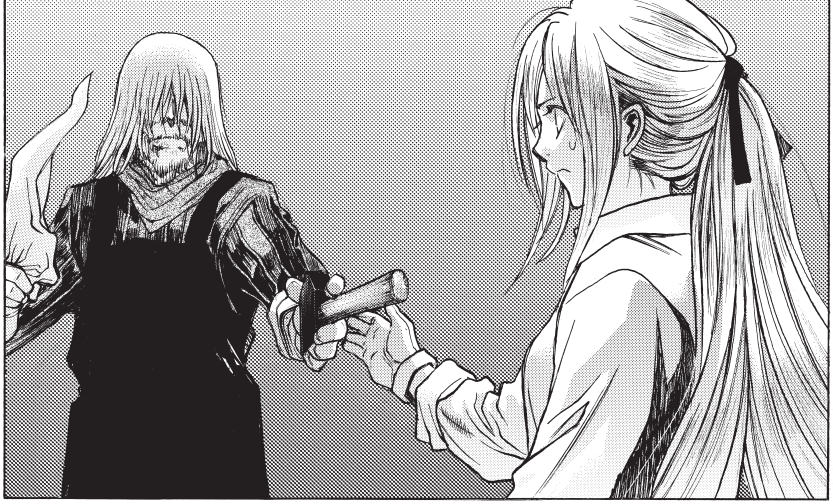

WHAM
HEY! HEY, ANGEL!
IT'S ME! LEO! I BROUGHT SOMEONE TO SEE YOU!!
WHAM
WHAM
I'M COMING IN!
FWAM
CLAAANG
CLAAANG

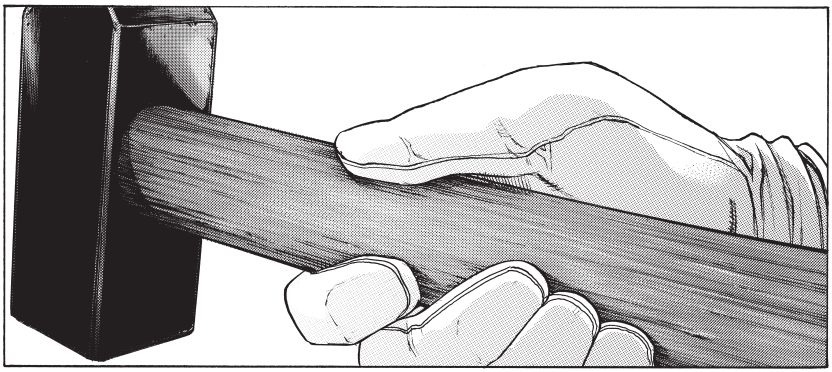
CLANG
CLANG
カーン
CLANG
CLANG
ゴクリ
GULP

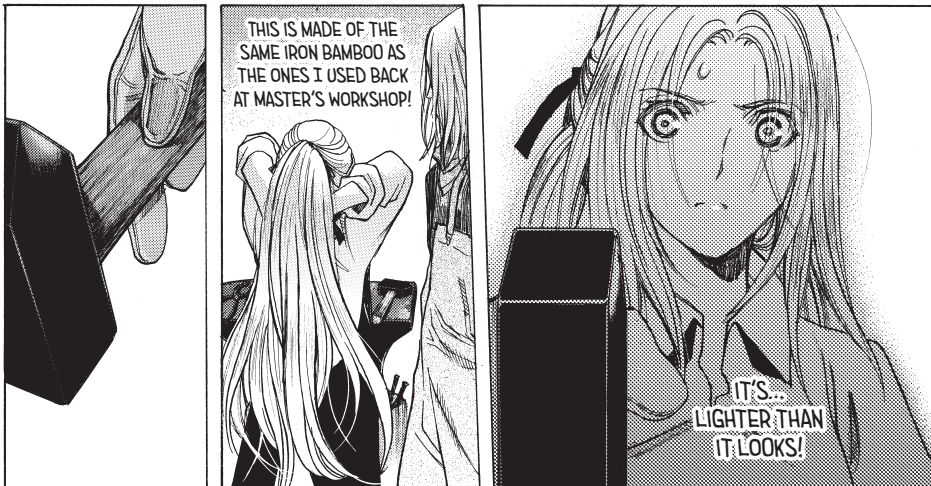

HEY! ANGEL! VISITOR!
OH...
UM... EXCUSE ME, MR. ANGEL!
CLANG
CLANG
IT'S ME, SHARLE! FROM JUST B- BEFORE... I...I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU!
BUT IN ORDER TO DO THAT...
...I NEED TO KNOW, UM...WHAT IT WAS I DID THAT YOU TOOK OFFENSE TO!!
CLANG
CLANG
AND I DON'T THINK IT WOULD MEAN ANYTHING IF I APOLOGIZED WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WHY.

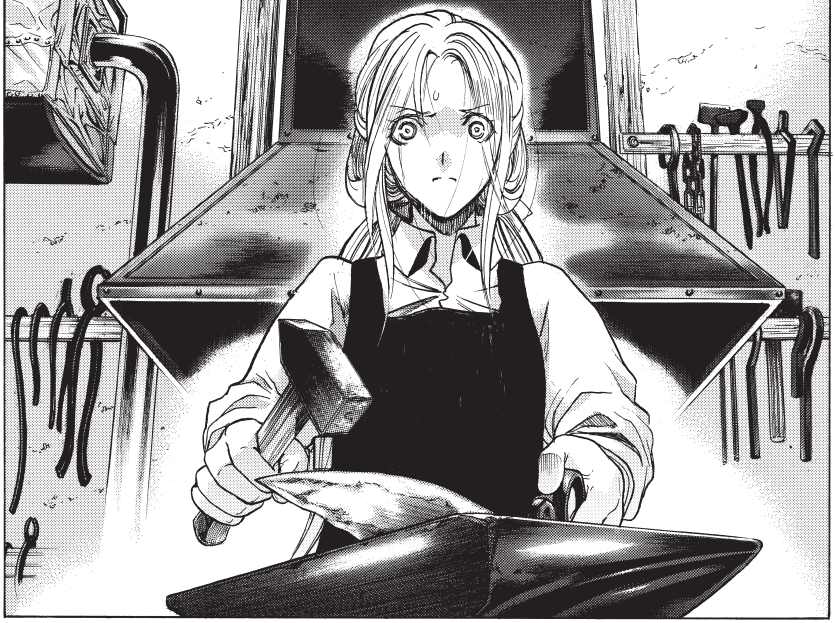

I TALKED WITH HER A BIT BACK AT KLARISSA'S PLACE, AND SHE'S A GOOD, SMART GIRL!
CLANG
CAN'T YOU AT LEAST HEAR HER OUT?
CLANG
HEY! OLD MAN!
CLANG
CLANG
W... WELL?

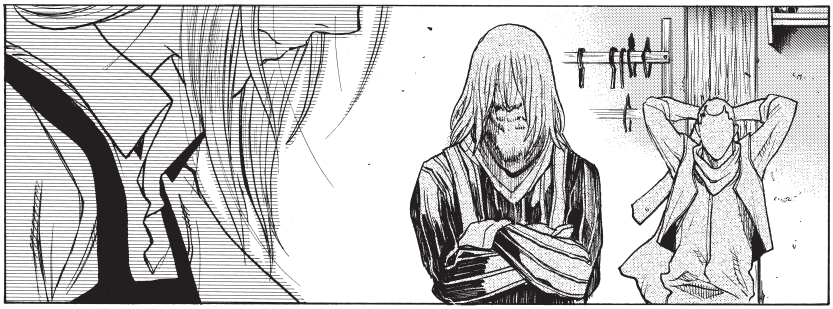
HEM
!
STRIKE.
BRK
WILL YOU TAKE MY COAT, LEO?
ER... YEAH.
DSH
Y-YES, SIR!
...?

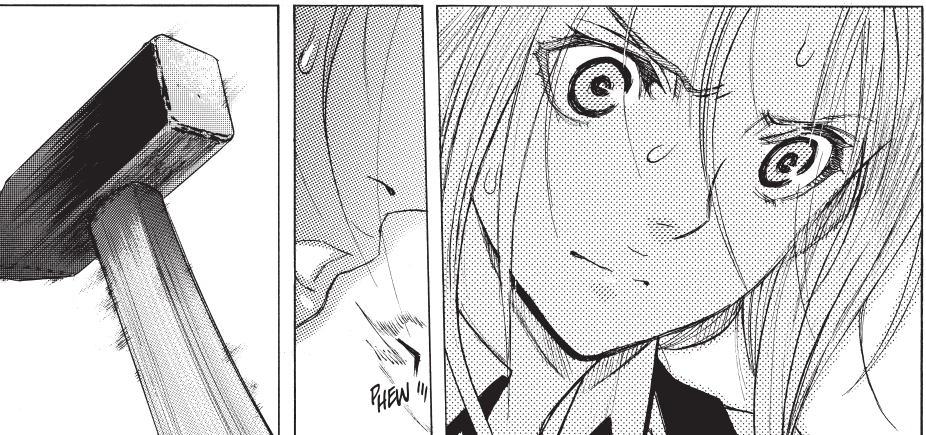


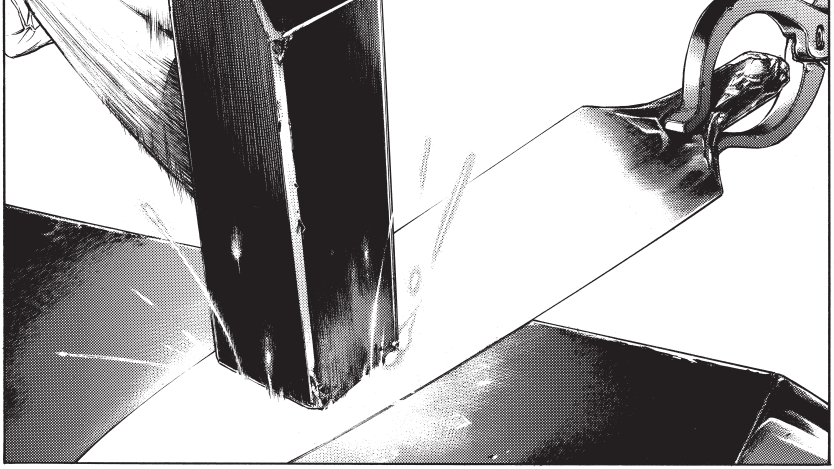


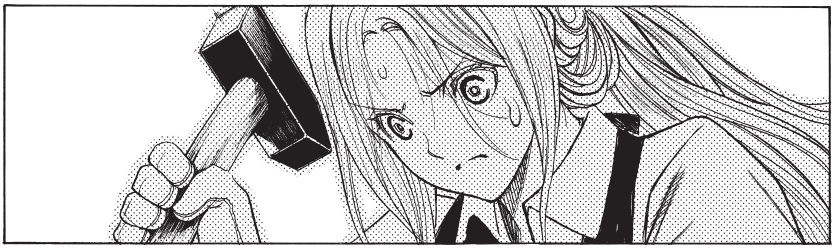

THIS IS MADE OF THE SAME IRON BAMBOO AS THE ONES I USED BACK AT MASTER'S WORKSHOP!
IT'S... LIGHTER THAN IT LOOKS!

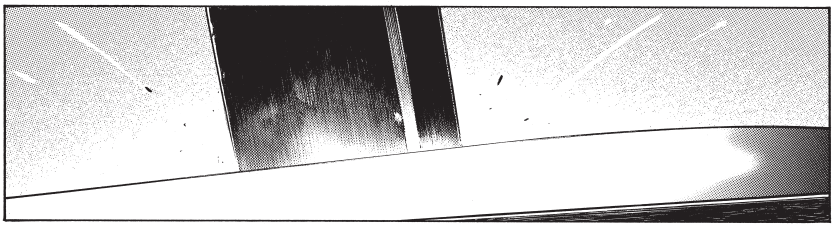


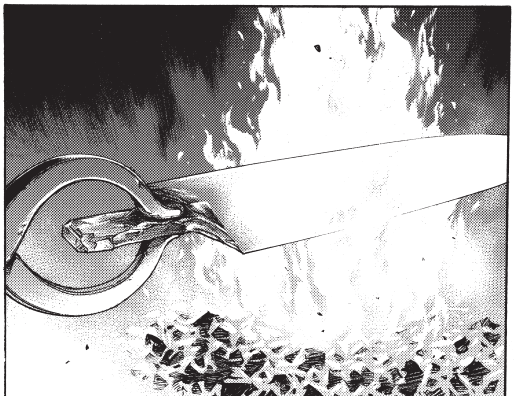


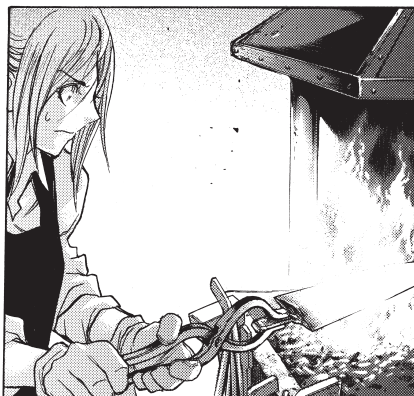

PHEW

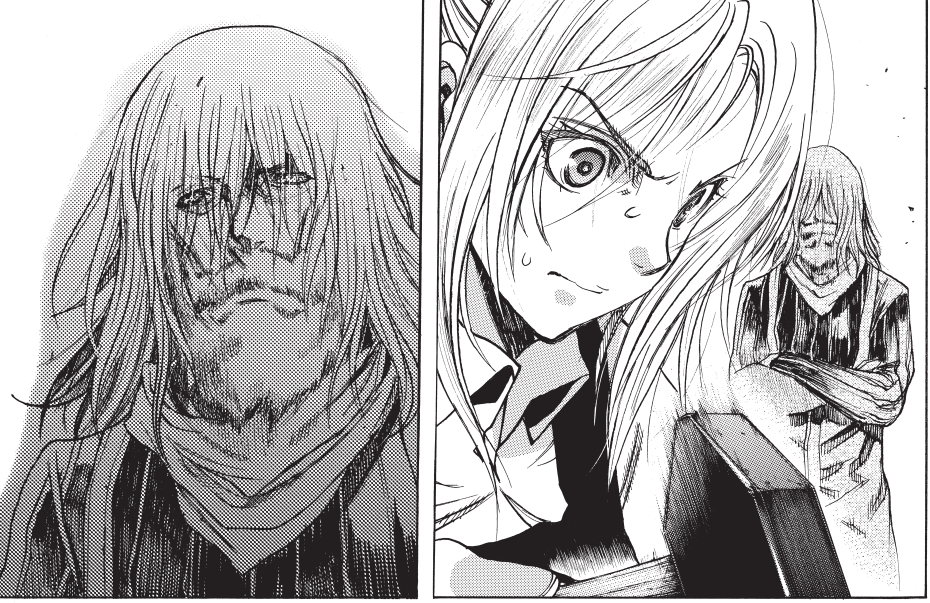


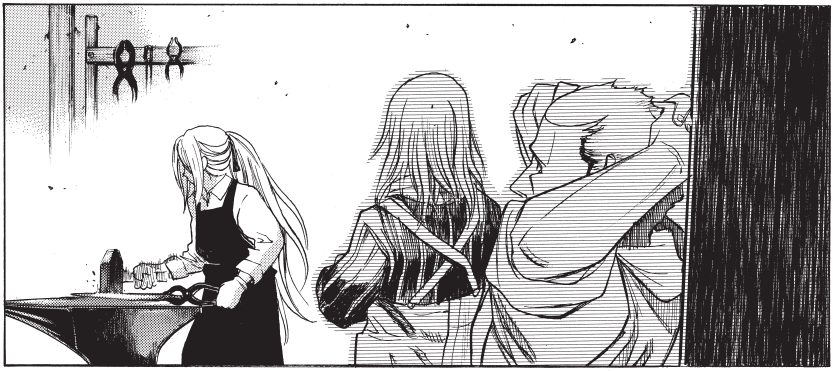


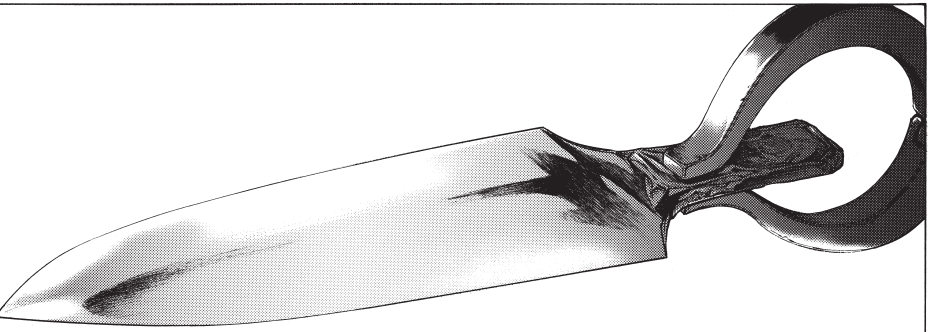


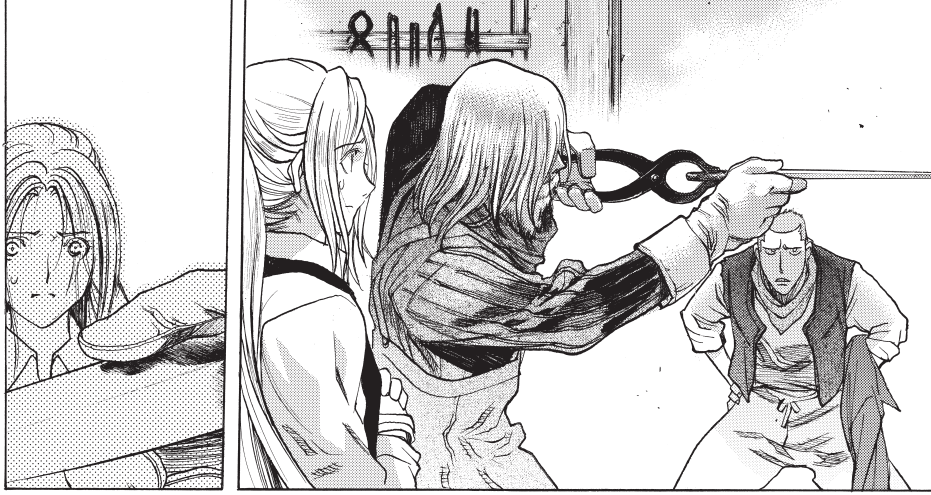


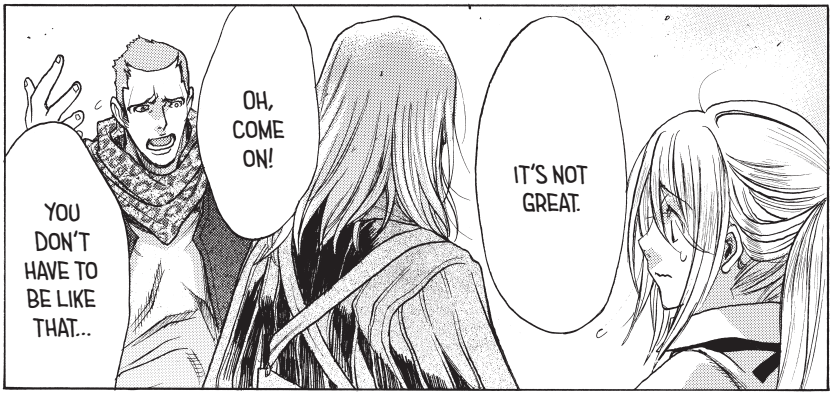




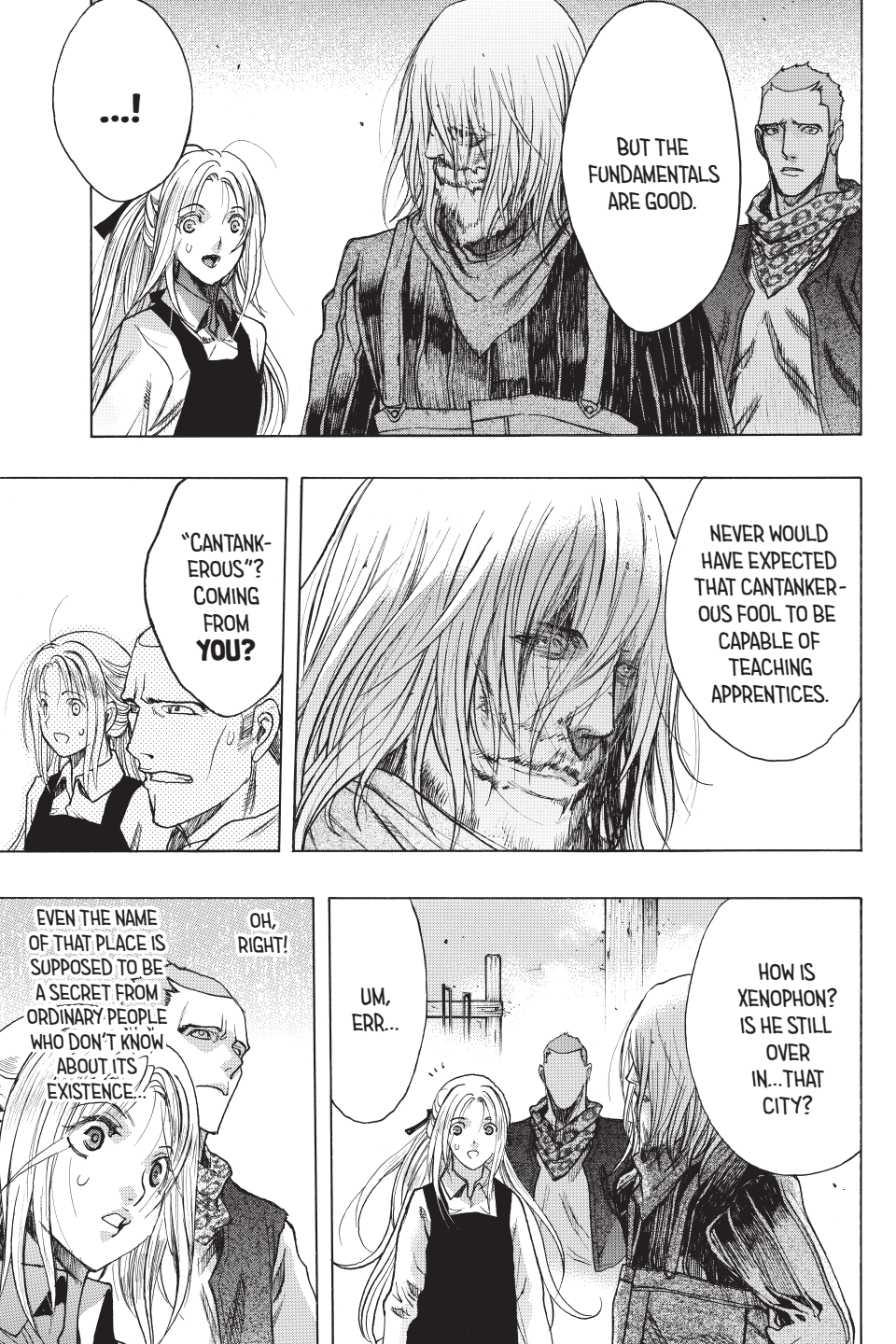


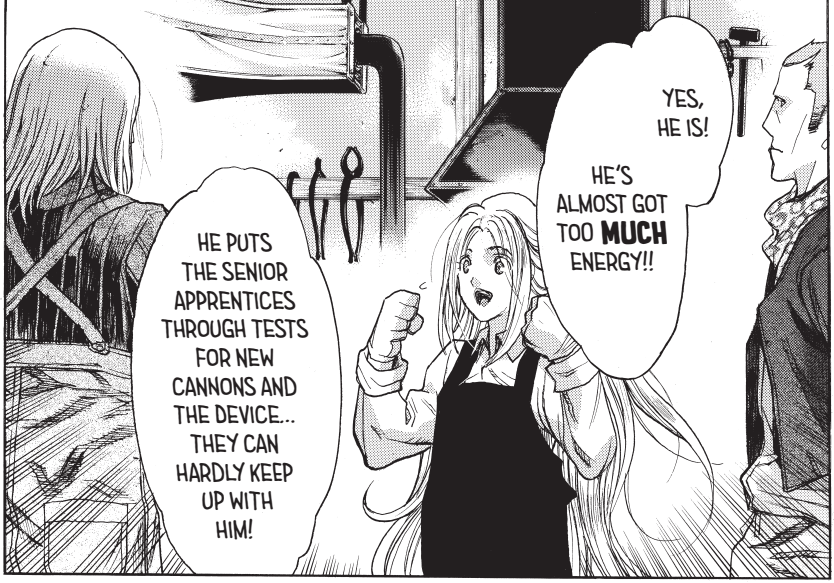


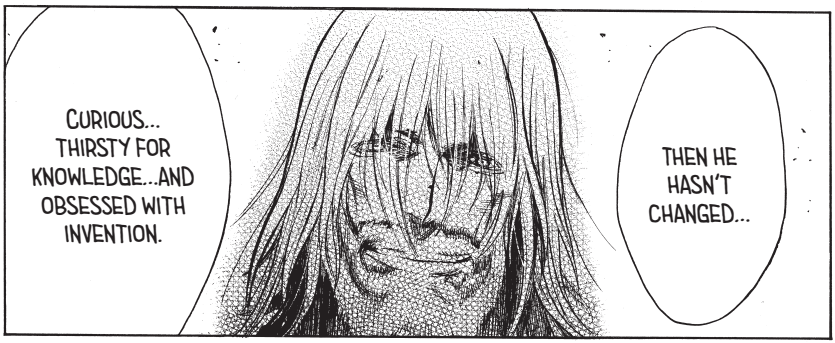


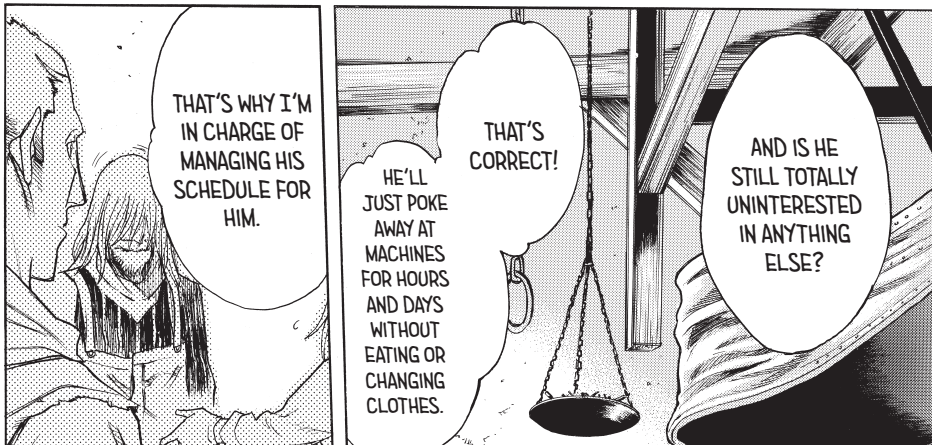

IT'S NOT GREAT.
OH, COME ON!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THAT...

NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT. I KNOW I'M STILL AN AMATEUR.
YEAH, BUT...
HMPH.

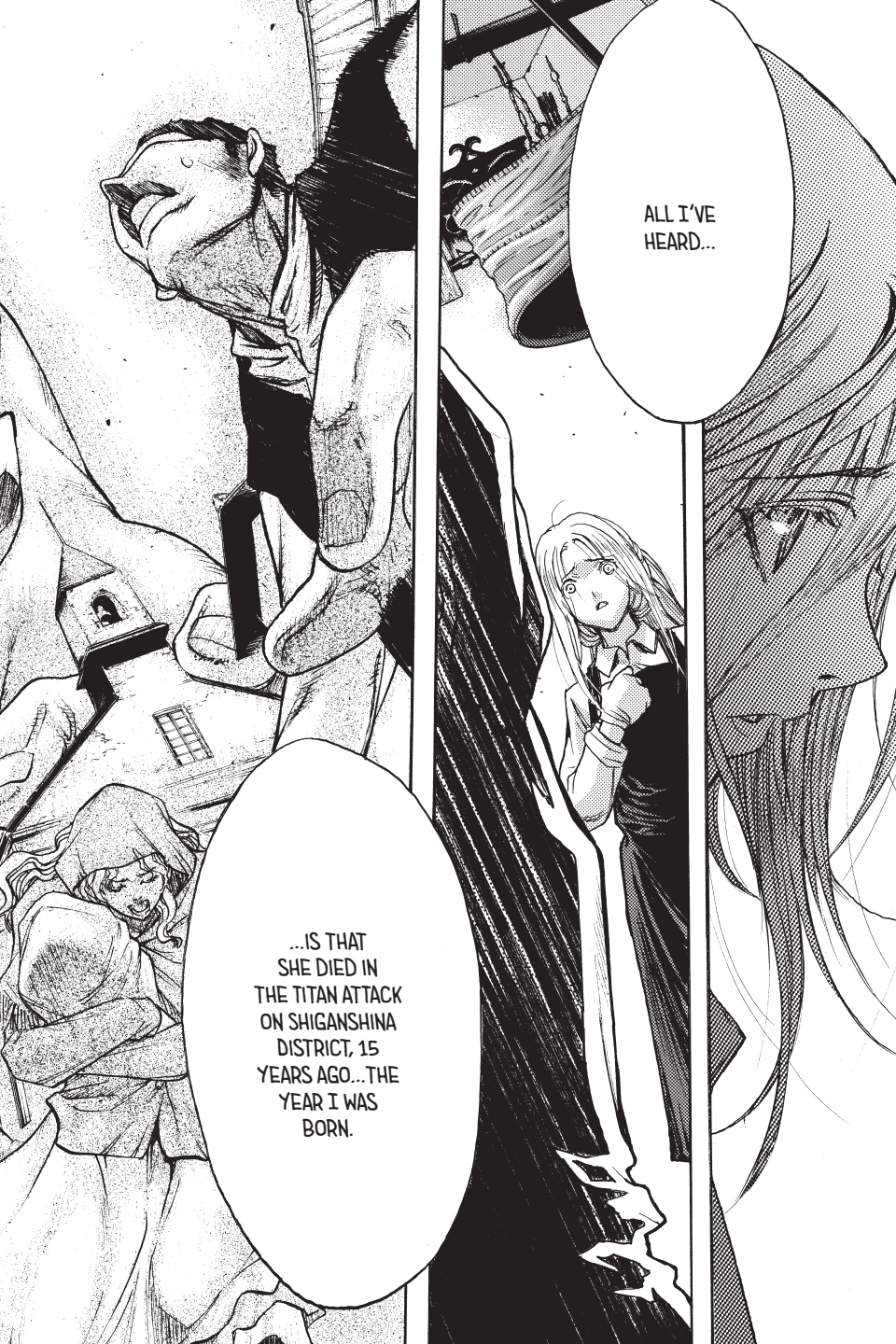

...!
BUT THE FUNDAMENTALS ARE GOOD.
"CANTANKEROUS"? COMING FROM **YOU?**
NEVER WOULD HAVE EXPECTED THAT CANTANKEROUS FOOL TO BE CAPABLE OF TEACHING APPRENTICES.
OH, RIGHT!
EVEN THE NAME OF THAT PLACE IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SECRET FROM ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW ABOUT ITS EXISTENCE...
UM, ERR...
HOW IS XENOPHON? IS HE STILL OVER IN...THAT CITY?

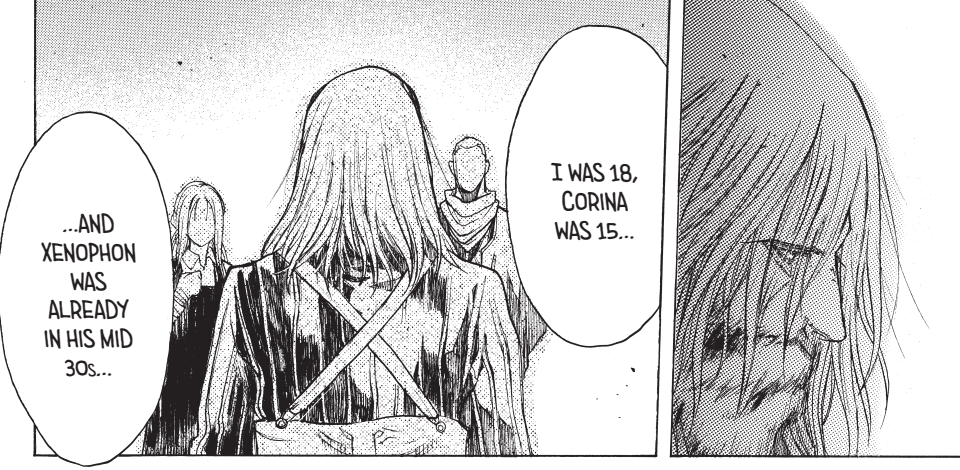

YES, HE IS!
HE'S ALMOST GOT TOO **MUCH** ENERGY!!
HE PUTS THE SENIOR APPRENTICES THROUGH TESTS FOR NEW CANNONS AND THE DEVICE... THEY CAN HARDLY KEEP UP WITH HIM!

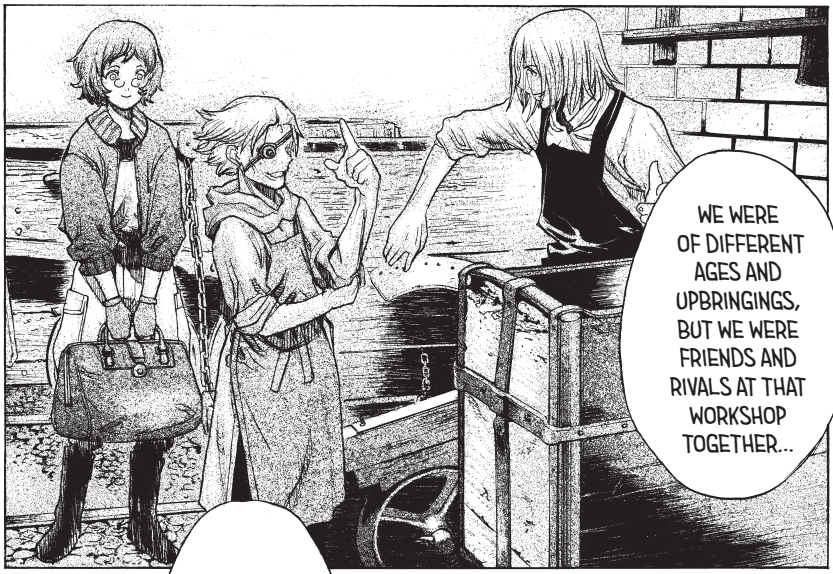

THEN HE HASN'T CHANGED...
CURIOUS... THIRSTY FOR KNOWLEDGE...AND OBSESSED WITH INVENTION.

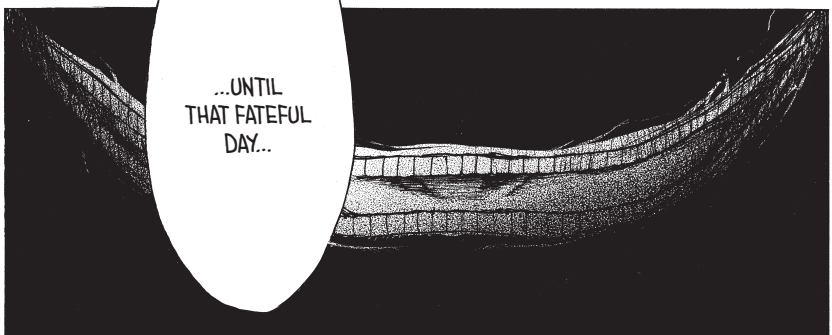

AND IS HE STILL TOTALLY UNINTERESTED IN ANYTHING ELSE?
THAT'S CORRECT!
HE'LL JUST POKE AWAY AT MACHINES FOR HOURS AND DAYS WITHOUT EATING OR CHANGING CLOTHES.
THAT'S WHY I'M IN CHARGE OF MANAGING HIS SCHEDULE FOR HIM.

I THINK THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN YOU SMILE BEFORE.
WE WERE ALL LIKE THAT, BACK IN THE DAYS OF OLD CASPAR'S WORKSHOP.
ME, XENOPHON, AND...
SHARLE, YOU SAID YOUR NAME WAS? HOW OLD ARE YOU?
UH... I'M 15.
THE SAME AGE THAT CORINA WAS...
OH! WAS SHE...
...YOUR ASSIS-TANT...?
XENOPHON TOLD YOU?
YES, AS DID JORGE.
CAPTAIN JORGE... NOW THERE'S A FOND NAME.
SO YOU'VE HEARD HOW SHE DIED, I ASSUME...


ALL I'VE HEARD...
...IS THAT SHE DIED IN THE TITAN ATTACK ON SHIGANSHINA DISTRICT, 15 YEARS AGO...THE YEAR I WAS BORN.


I WAS 18, CORINA WAS 15...
...AND XENOPHON WAS ALREADY IN HIS MID 30s...

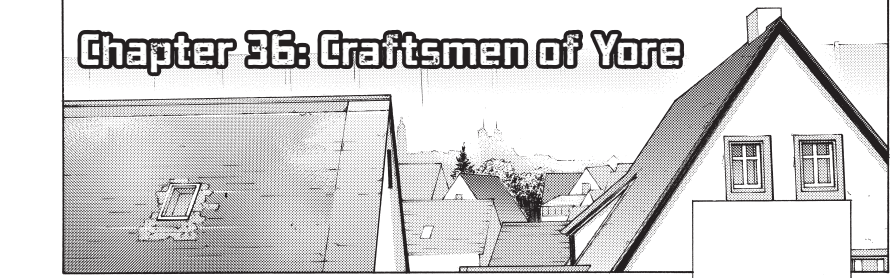

WE WERE OF DIFFERENT AGES AND UPBRINGINGS, BUT WE WERE FRIENDS AND RIVALS AT THAT WORKSHOP TOGETHER...

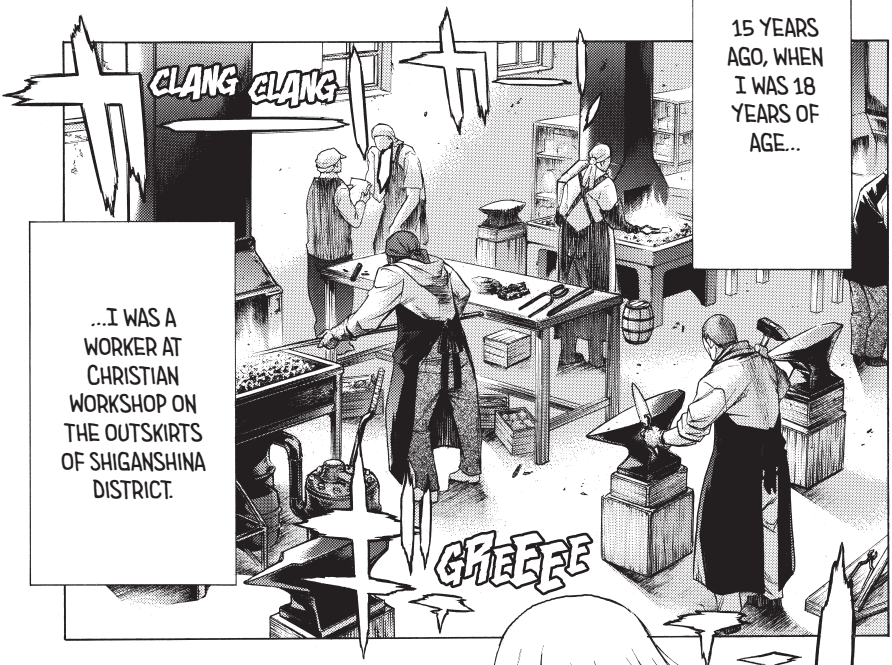

...UNTIL THAT FATEFUL DAY...

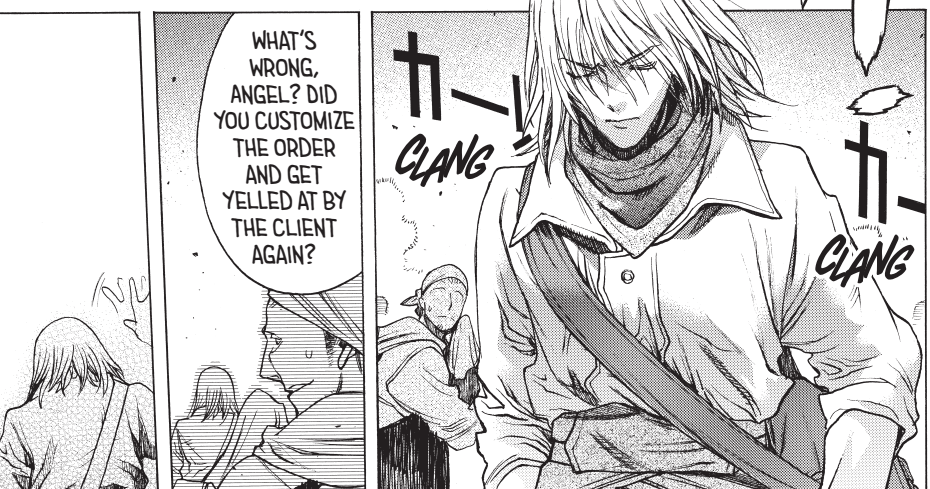
Chapter 35: Lone Shadow in the Town That Never Sleeps · End

ATTACK
ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL

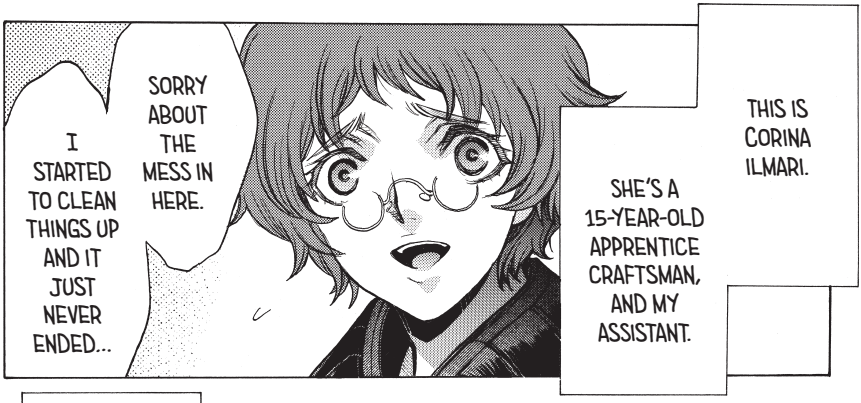
Chapter 36: Craftsmen of Yore







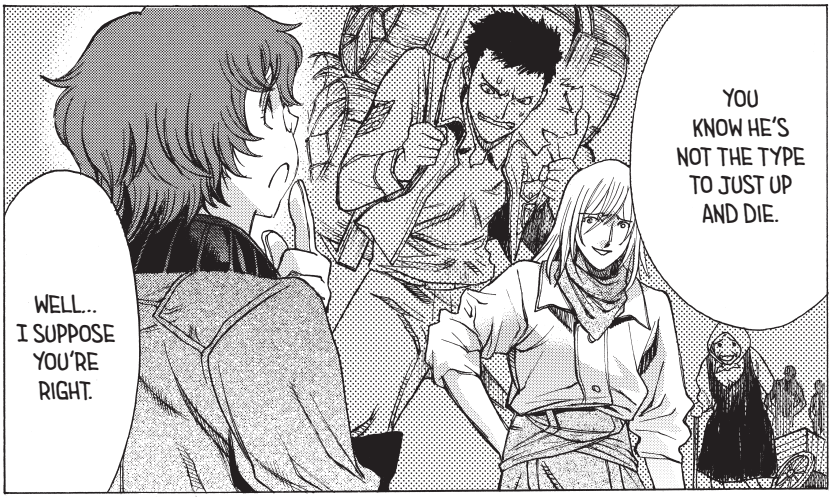
WELCOME BACK!
OH!
KCHAK

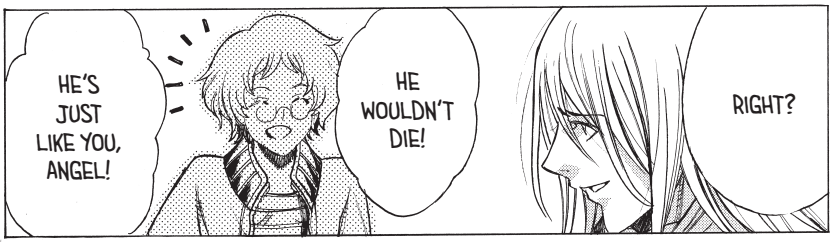

I STARTED TO CLEAN THINGS UP AND IT JUST NEVER ENDED...
SORRY ABOUT THE MESS IN HERE.
SHE'S A 15-YEAR-OLD APPRENTICE CRAFTSMAN, AND MY ASSISTANT.
THIS IS CORINA ILMARI.

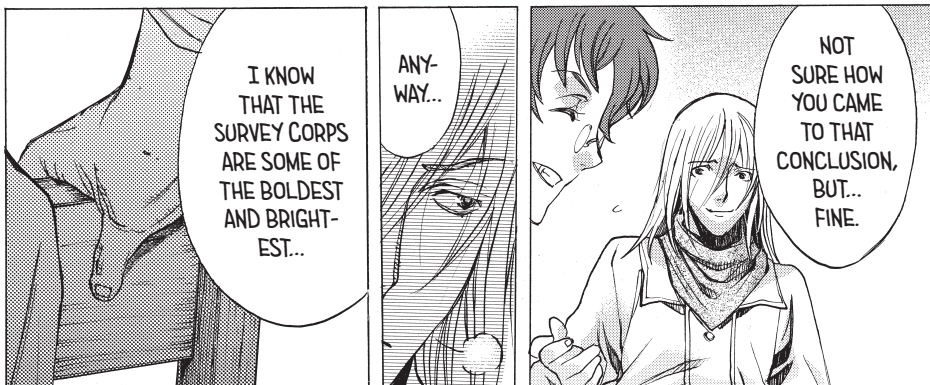
...AND ALREADY I'VE BEEN GIVEN THE TITLE OF "KING OF INVENTIONS" AND TREATED AS THE FACE OF THE WORKSHOP.
?
IT'S BEEN NOT YET THREE YEARS SINCE I CAME HERE...

AS A RESULT, I GOT MY OWN PRIVATE ROOM FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND A PERSONAL ASSISTANT.
YOU LOOK... A BIT DOWN...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
THUMP
OH...
DID SORUM ...?
FWAP

HA HA!
SORUM?


YOU KNOW HE'S NOT THE TYPE TO JUST UP AND DIE.
WELL... I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT.


HE'S JUST LIKE YOU, ANGEL!
HE WOULDN'T DIE!
RIGHT?

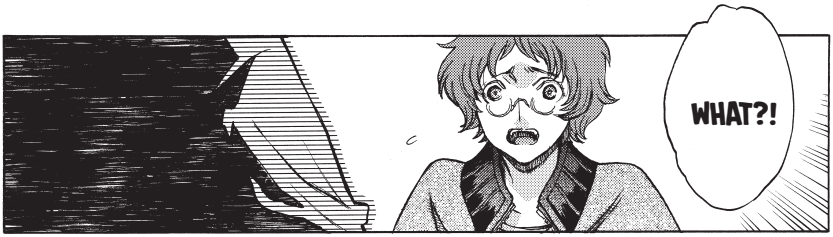

I KNOW THAT THE SURVEY CORPS ARE SOME OF THE BOLDEST AND BRIGHT-EST...
ANY-WAY...
NOT SURE HOW YOU CAME TO THAT CONCLUSION, BUT... FINE.

BUT EVEN THEN...
CREAK

THIS LAST EXPEDITION WAS AN AWFUL DISASTER.

REALLY? IT WAS?

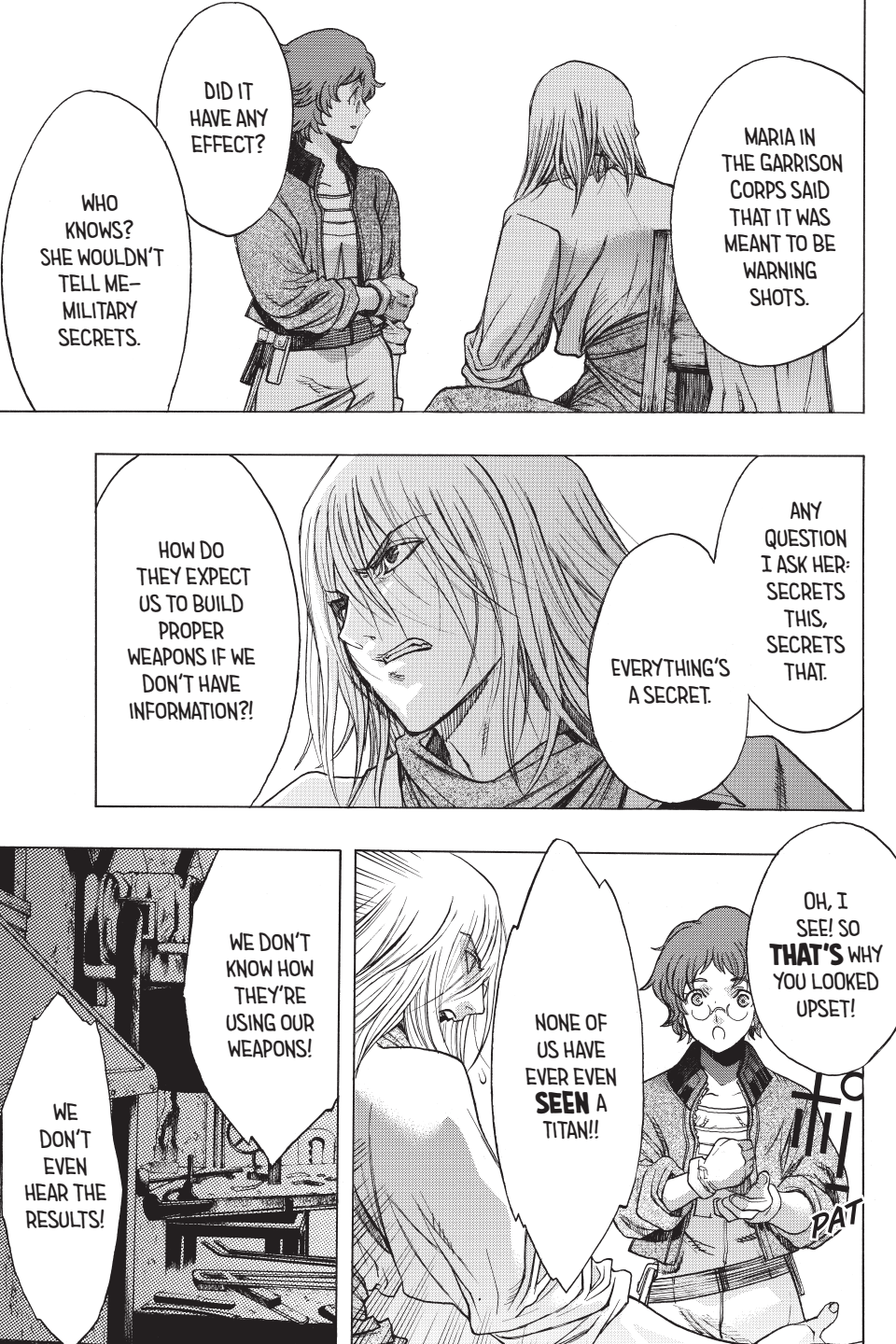
SOLDIERS' HEADS FELL FROM THE SKY.


WHAT?!

WHEN THE TITANS WERE DONE EATING THEIR PREY, THEY THREW THE HEADS BACK OVER THE WALL.
THE ENTIRE AREA WAS SPLATTERED WITH BRAIN MATTER.

THEY'VE GOT THE ENTIRE GARRISON OUT THERE CLEANING IT UP.
I GUESS I MADE THE RIGHT DECISION, NOT GOING WITH YOU.
BRR
I WISH I HADN'T SEEN IT, EITHER.
NO... SCRATCH THAT.
MAYBE IT WAS A GOOD THING THAT I WITNESSED THE SIGHT.
CRAK
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?

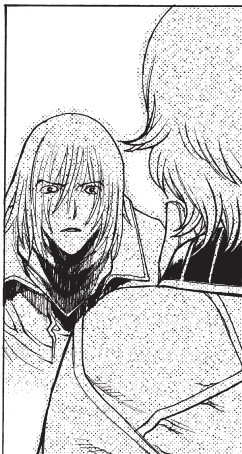
PROVIDES A NICE LITTLE SPICE TO THE DESIRE TO DEVELOP, DOESN'T IT?
IT WAS A GOOD REMINDER OF THE TERROR THE TITANS INSPIRE.
YOU'RE A FAILURE OF A CRAFTSMAN, THEN.
HMPH!
EVEN STILL...
...I DON'T WANT TO SEE IT...
WERE THEY SHOOTING AT THE TITANS?
I COULD HEAR THE CANNONS FIRING.
OH, BY THE WAY...


DID IT HAVE ANY EFFECT?
WHO KNOWS? SHE WOULDN'T TELL ME— MILITARY SECRETS.
MARIA IN THE GARRISON CORPS SAID THAT IT WAS MEANT TO BE WARNING SHOTS.
HOW DO THEY EXPECT US TO BUILD PROPER WEAPONS IF WE DON'T HAVE INFORMATION?!
EVERYTHING'S A SECRET.
ANY QUESTION I ASK HER: SECRETS THIS, SECRETS THAT.
WE DON'T KNOW HOW THEY'RE USING OUR WEAPONS!
WE DON'T EVEN HEAR THE RESULTS!
NONE OF US HAVE EVER EVEN **SEEN** A TITAN!!
OH, I SEE! SO **THAT'S** WHY YOU LOOKED UPSET!
PAT

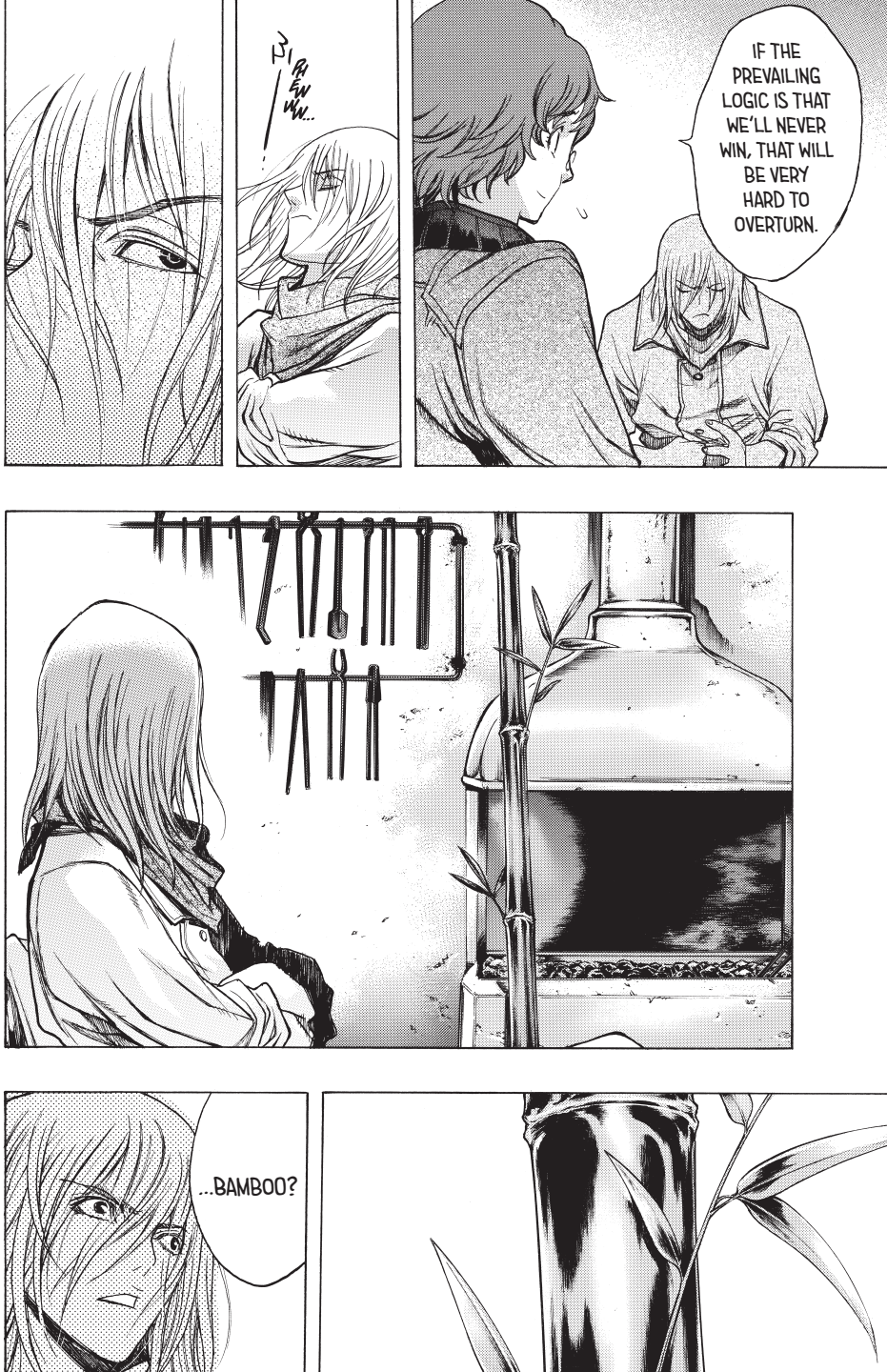
IF THEY'RE REALLY INTENT ON OVERCOMING THE TITANS, YOU'D THINK THEY WOULD GIVE US MORE INFORMATION FOR A BETTER PRODUCT!
YES, EXACTLY!!
THERE'S NO FEED-BACK, NO SENSE OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE.

WHAT IF THEY **DON'T** WANT TO OVERCOME THEM?

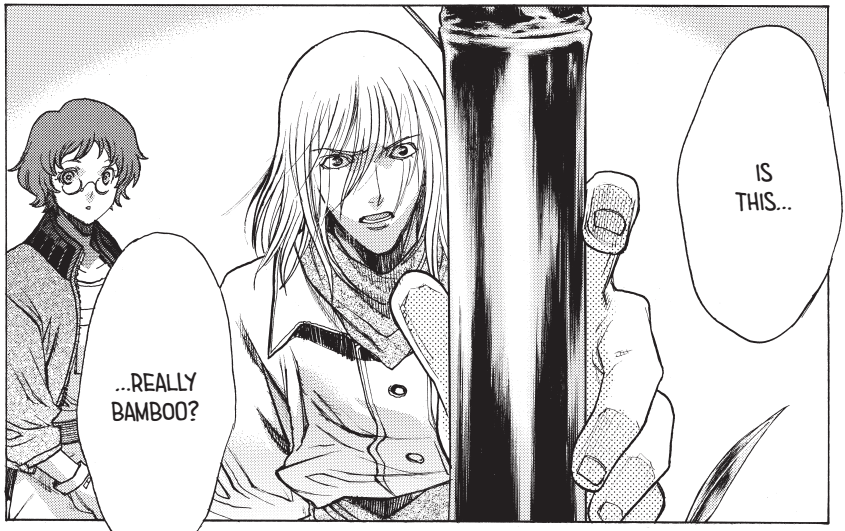
IT'S POSSIBLE...

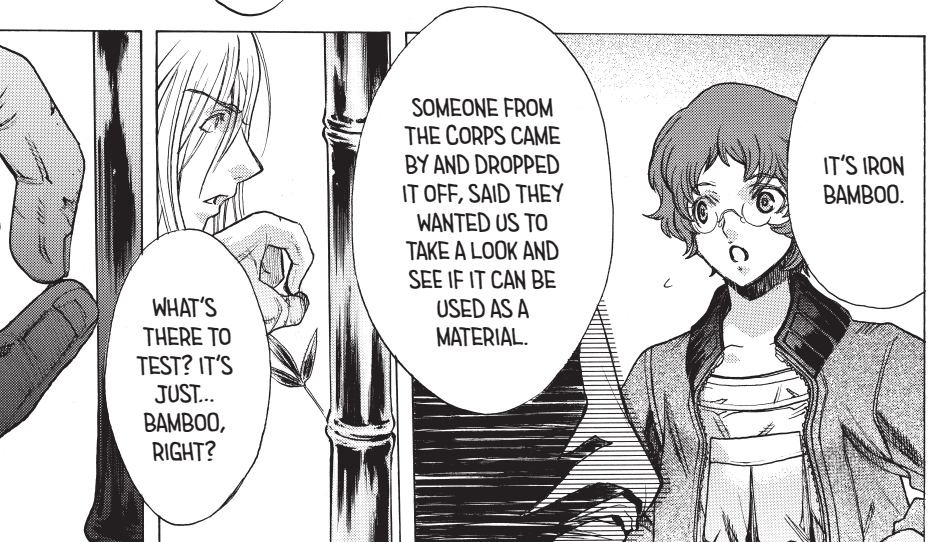


EVEN CHILDREN THESE DAYS KNOW THAT THE TITANS SIMPLY DO NOT DIE.
SO IF WE'RE NOT AGGRESSIVELY DEVELOPING WEAPONS TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST THEM...
...THEN PERHAPS IT MEANS THAT THE PEOPLE IN CHARGE DON'T SEE ANY VALUE IN SPENDING RESOURCES PURSUING AN IMPOSSIBLE GOAL...
WHAP
WHEN IF WE JUST TRIED TO STUDY THEIR ANATOMY, THEIR BIOLOGY...
...WE MIGHT ACTUALLY FIND A WEAKNESS OR TWO THAT WE CAN EXPLOIT!!


IF THE PREVAILING LOGIC IS THAT WE'LL NEVER WIN, THAT WILL BE VERY HARD TO OVERTURN.
...BAMBOO?

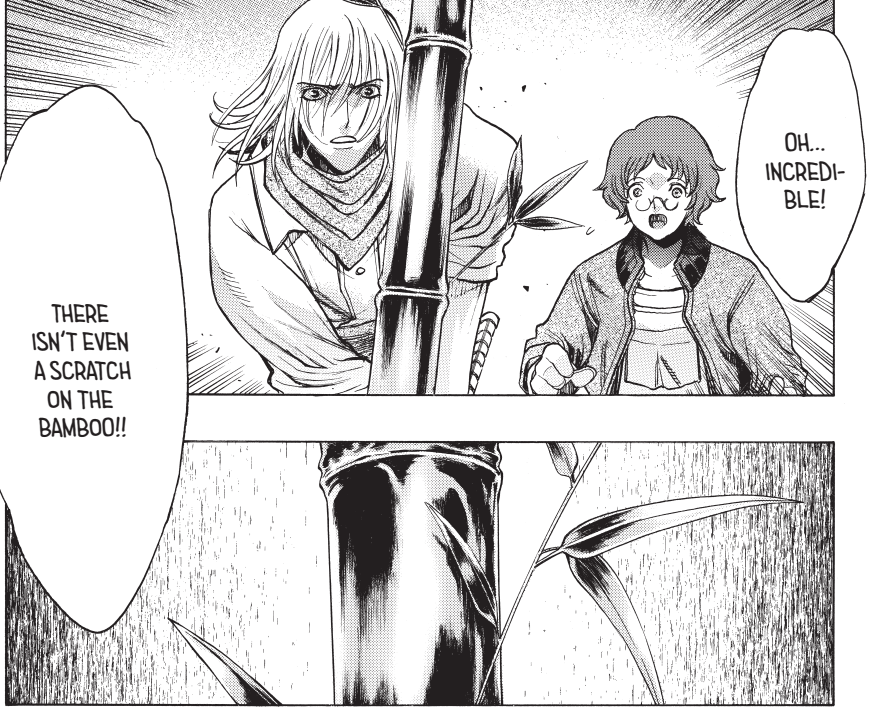
FWUMP

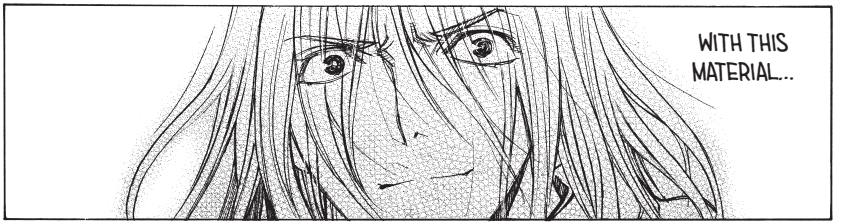

IS THIS...
...REALLY BAMBOO?

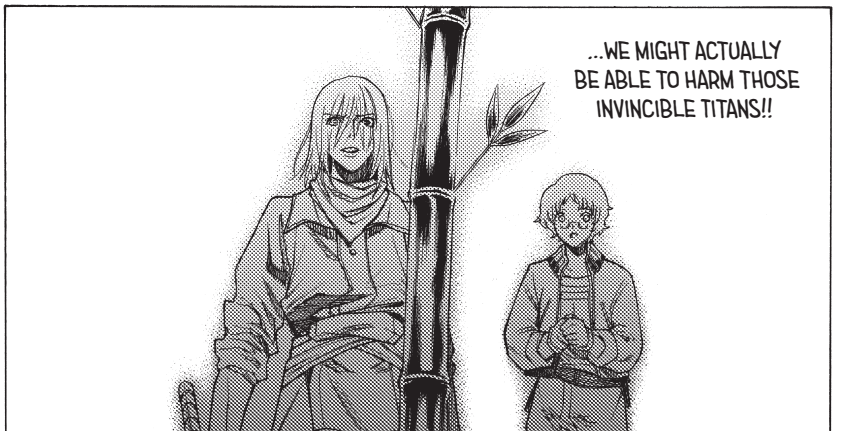

IT'S IRON BAMBOO.
SOMEONE FROM THE CORPS CAME BY AND DROPPED IT OFF, SAID THEY WANTED US TO TAKE A LOOK AND SEE IF IT CAN BE USED AS A MATERIAL.
WHAT'S THERE TO TEST? IT'S JUST... BAMBOO, RIGHT?

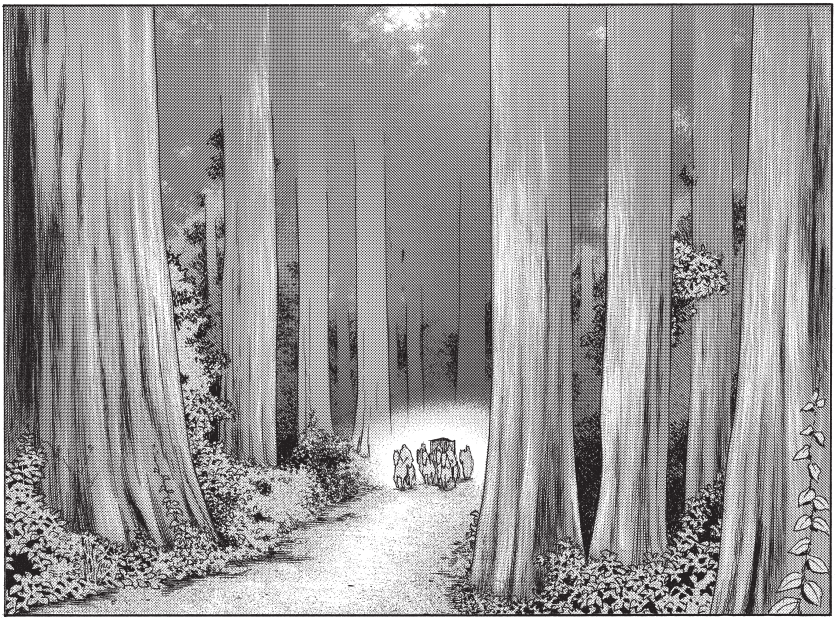
!
TWING
IT FEELS JUST LIKE METAL...
OH! IT'S COLD TO THE TOUCH!
WAIT, IS THIS CARVED?
ARTIFICIAL?
I THOUGH METAL ORES HAD TO BE MINED FROM THE GROUND. WHEN DID THEY START GROWING LIKE PLANTS?
IT'S NATURAL?!
THEY SAID THAT IT GROWS ON ITS OWN IN THE MOUNTAINS.

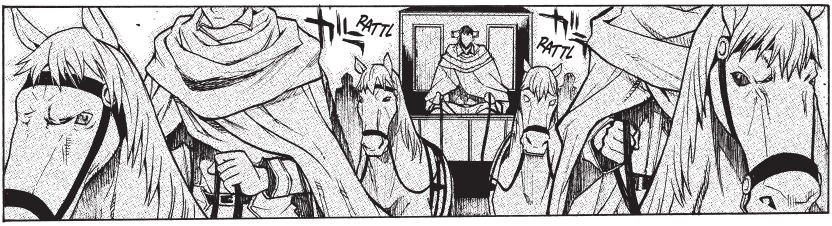
STAND BACK.
DON'T ASK ME, I'M NOT THE EXPERT!
KWANG
ANNNG

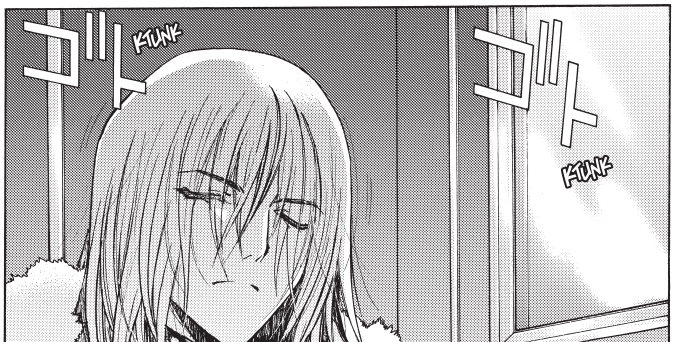

OH... INCREDI-BLE!
THERE ISN'T EVEN A SCRATCH ON THE BAMBOO!!


WITH THIS MATERIAL...

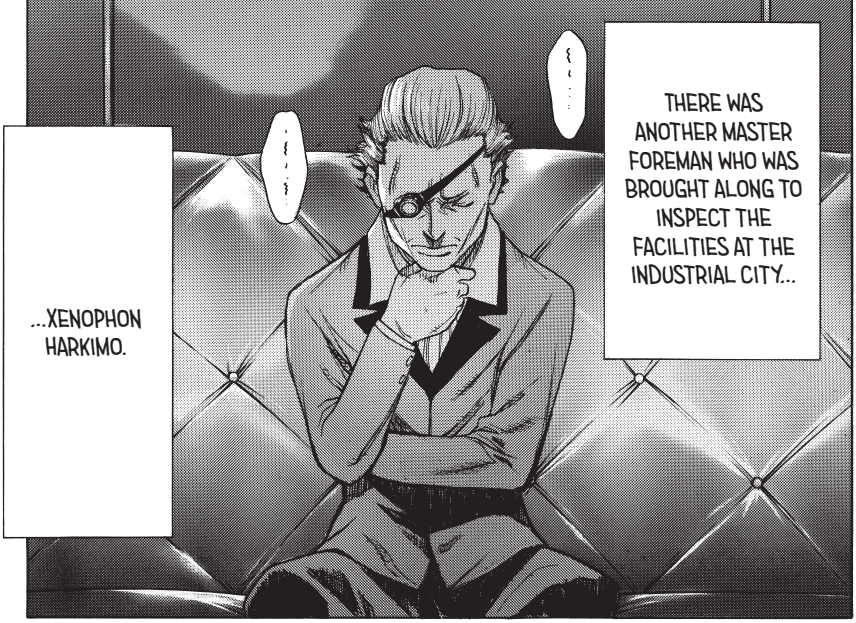

...WE MIGHT ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO HARM THOSE INVINCIBLE TITANS!!

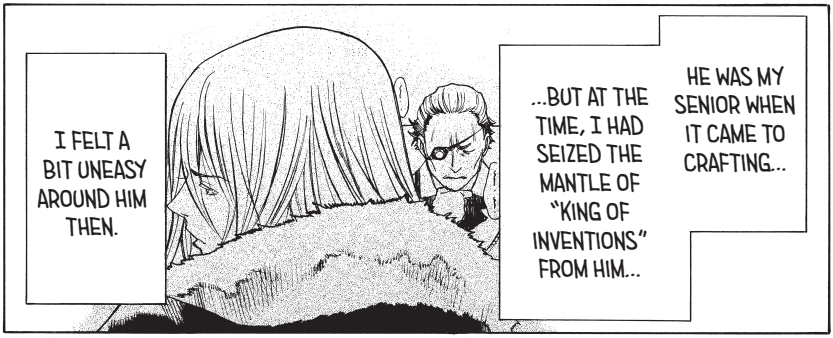


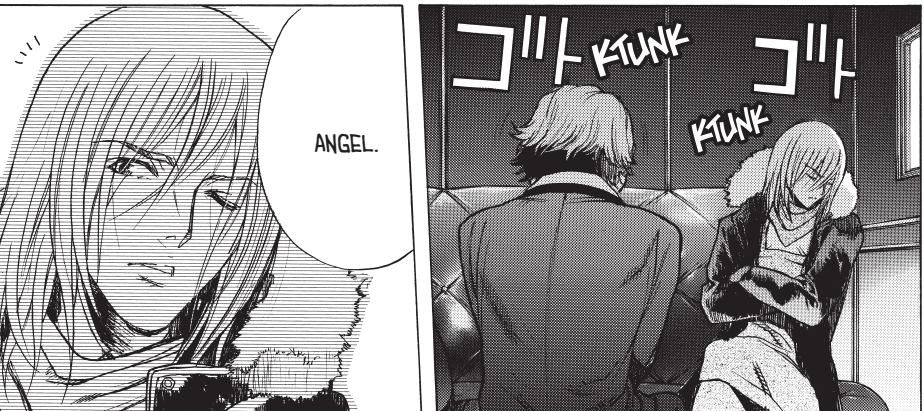

RATTL
RATTL


KTUNK
KTUNK

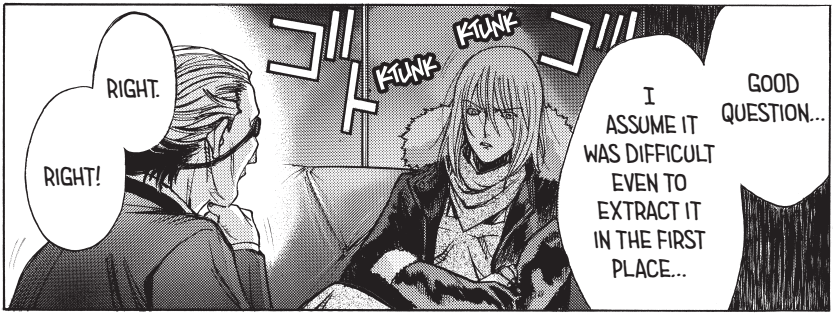
...THAN FOREMAN CASPAR CHRISTIAN ORDERED ME TO VISIT THE NEW INDUSTRIAL CITY, JUST BEFORE IT WENT ACTIVE.
NO SOONER HAD WE RECEIVED THIS NEW "IRON BAMBOO" SHIPMENT...
OUR GUIDE WAS MY OLD FRIEND, SORUM HUMÉ OF THE SURVEY CORPS.
KLUNK
KLUNK
MY ASSISTANT CORINA JOINED ME.
KLUNK
KLUNK
AND LASTLY ...


THERE WAS ANOTHER MASTER FOREMAN WHO WAS BROUGHT ALONG TO INSPECT THE FACILITIES AT THE INDUSTRIAL CITY...
...XENOPHON HARKIMO.


HE WAS MY SENIOR WHEN IT CAME TO CRAFTING...
...BUT AT THE TIME, I HAD SEIZED THE MANTLE OF "KING OF INVENTIONS" FROM HIM...
I FELT A BIT UNEASY AROUND HIM THEN.

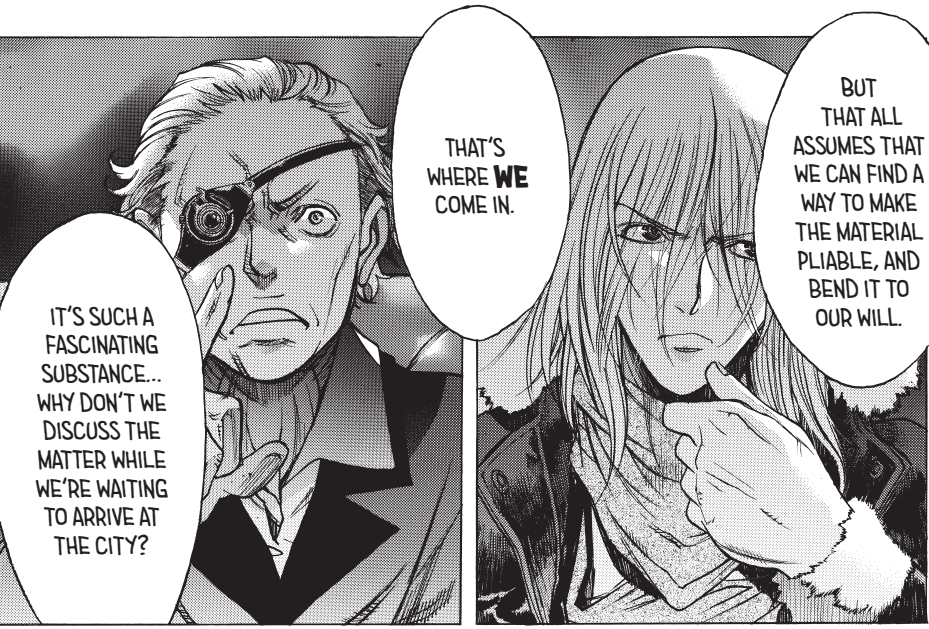

ANGEL.
コツ KTUNK
コツ KTUNK

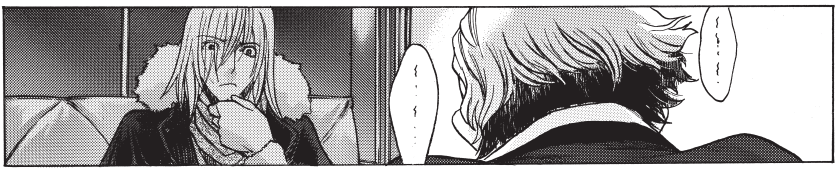
EVEN FOR YOU, TREATING AND PROCESSING THAT MATERIAL WON'T BE EASY.
HOW WOULD **YOU** USE IRON BAMBOO?!

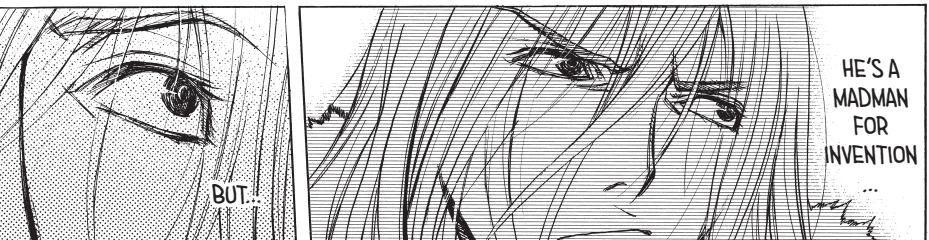

RIGHT.
RIGHT!
KTUNK
KTUNK
I ASSUME IT WAS DIFFICULT EVEN TO EXTRACT IT IN THE FIRST PLACE...
GOOD QUESTION...

BUT I SUPPOSE OUR FIRST PLAN OF ACTION SHOULD BE TO FIND A WAY TO USE IT IN A WEAPON.
WHAT RIGHT-MINDED CRAFTSMAN WOULD ABANDON HIS CALLING LIKE THAT?
YOU MUST BE JOKING!
IT'LL BE A LOT MORE USEFUL THAN THOSE DAGGERS THEY GIVE THEM.
WHY NOT FORGET ABOUT PROCESSING THE MATERIAL, AND JUST SELL IT THROUGH TO THE GARRISON CORPS?

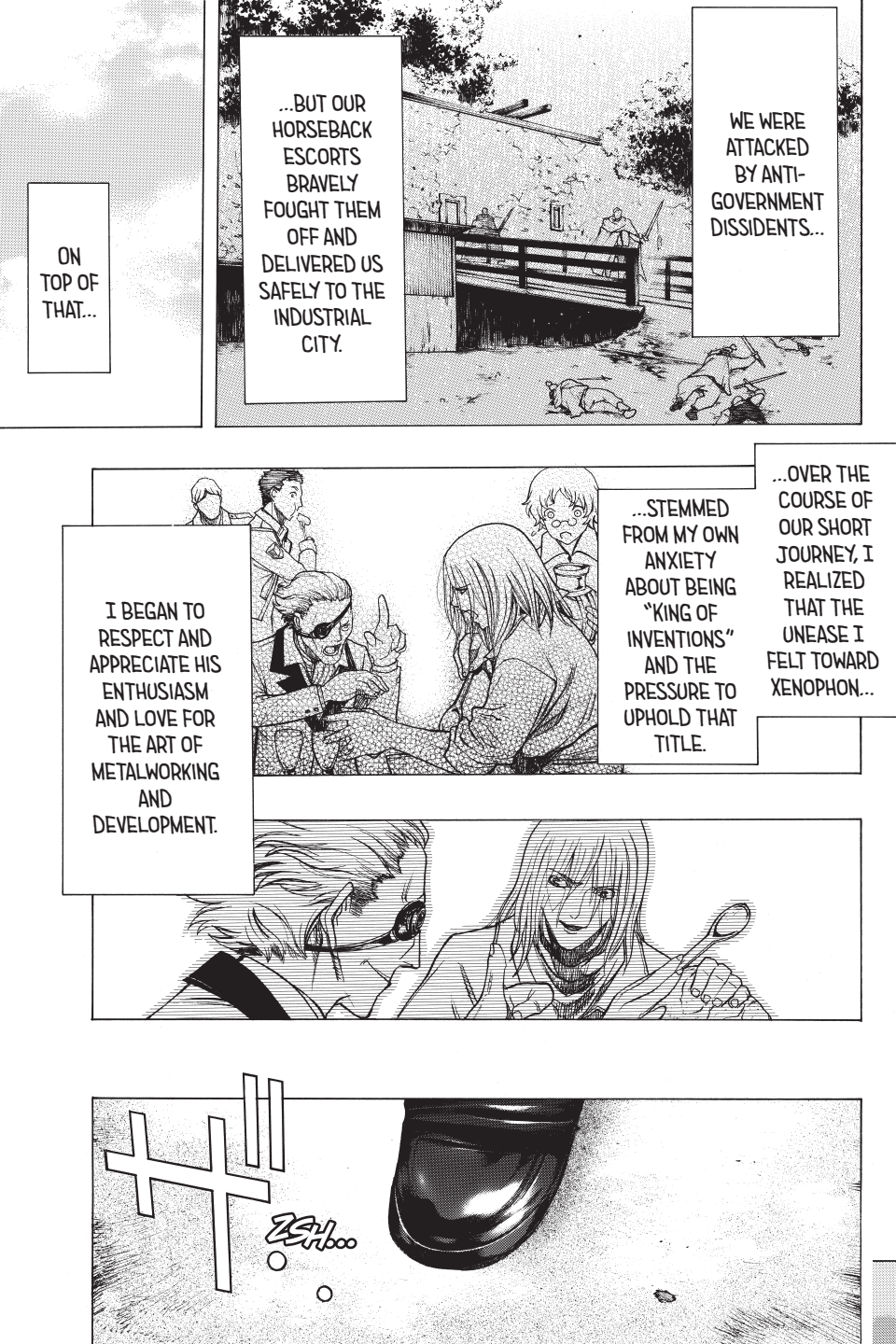
KTUNK
KTUNK
KTUNK
I AGREE. WITH AS TOUGH AS IT IS, IT'S PRACTICALLY BEGGING TO BE USED IN WEAPONRY.
INDEED, INDEED.
I SUSPECT THAT THE LEAVES OF THE IRON BAMBOO PLANT WILL ALSO HAVE SOME BENEFICIAL USE.

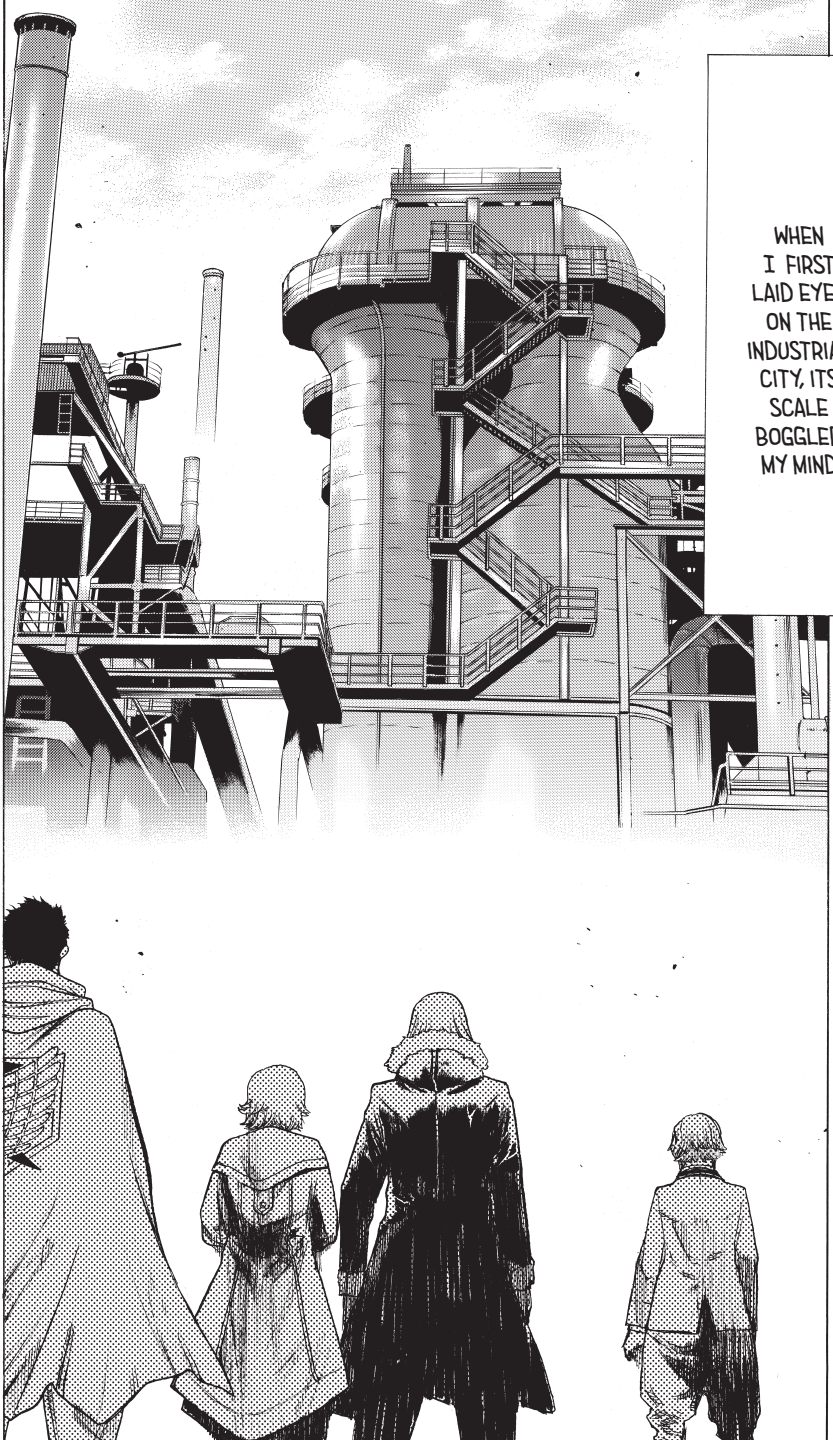

BUT THAT ALL ASSUMES THAT WE CAN FIND A WAY TO MAKE THE MATERIAL PLIABLE, AND BEND IT TO OUR WILL.
THAT'S WHERE **WE** COME IN.
IT'S SUCH A FASCINATING SUBSTANCE... WHY DON'T WE DISCUSS THE MATTER WHILE WE'RE WAITING TO ARRIVE AT THE CITY?

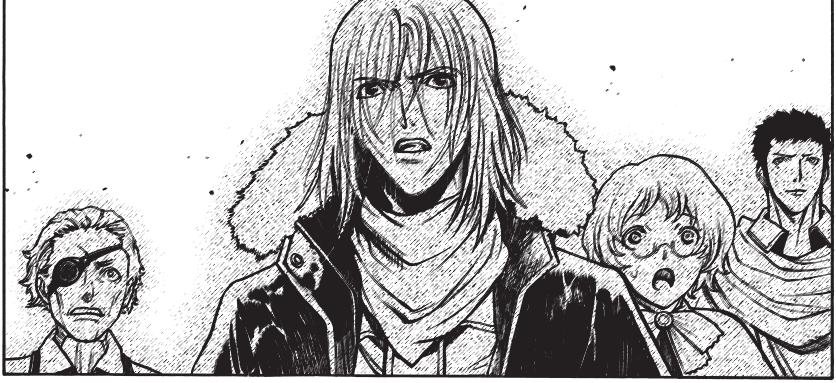


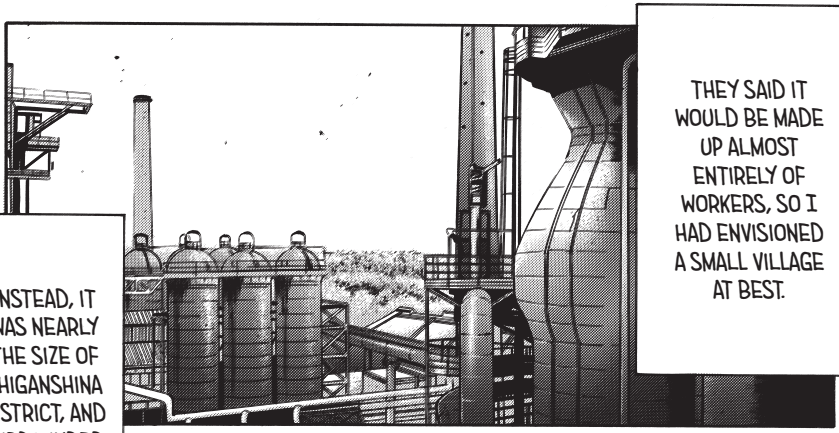

HE'S A MADMAN FOR INVENTION ...
BUT...

...I SUPPOSE THAT I AM, TOO...
RATTL
ガラ
I FEEL SIGG...
HURGH...
RATTL
ガラ


ON TOP OF THAT...
...BUT OUR HORSEBACK ESCORTS BRAVELY FOUGHT THEM OFF AND DELIVERED US SAFELY TO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY.
WE WERE ATTACKED BY ANTI-GOVERNMENT DISSIDENTS...
I BEGAN TO RESPECT AND APPRECIATE HIS ENTHUSIASM AND LOVE FOR THE ART OF METALWORKING AND DEVELOPMENT.
...STEMMED FROM MY OWN ANXIETY ABOUT BEING "KING OF INVENTIONS" AND THE PRESSURE TO UPHOLD THAT TITLE.
...OVER THE COURSE OF OUR SHORT JOURNEY, I REALIZED THAT THE UNEASE I FELT TOWARD XENOPHON...
ZSH...

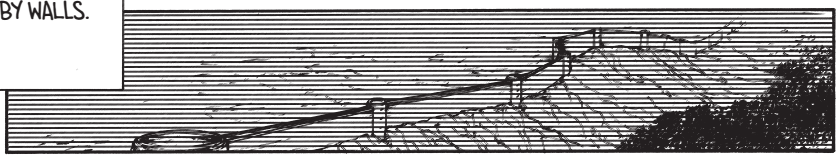

WHEN I FIRST LAID EYES ON THE INDUSTRIAL CITY, ITS SCALE BOGGLED MY MIND.

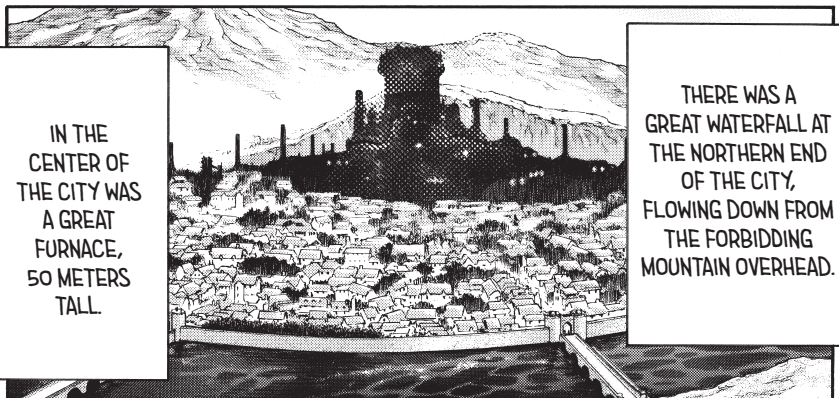




THEY SAID IT WOULD BE MADE UP ALMOST ENTIRELY OF WORKERS, SO I HAD ENVISIONED A SMALL VILLAGE AT BEST.

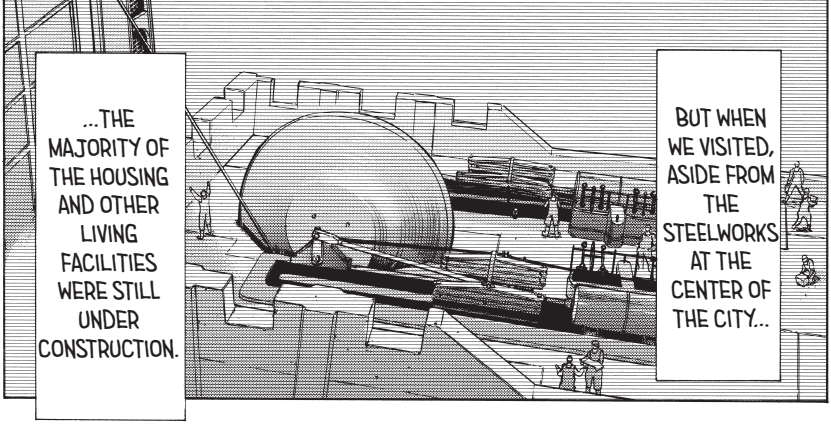
INSTEAD, IT WAS NEARLY THE SIZE OF SHIGANSHINA DISTRICT, AND SURROUNDED BY WALLS.

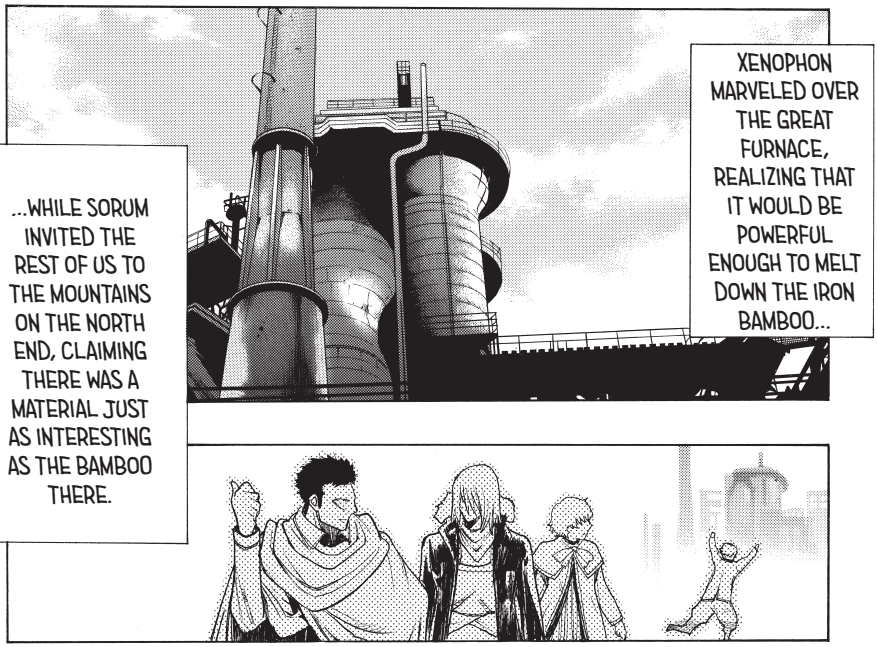




IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY WAS A GREAT FURNACE, 50 METERS TALL.

THERE WAS A GREAT WATERFALL AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE CITY, FLOWING DOWN FROM THE FORBIDDING MOUNTAIN OVERHEAD.


...THE MAJORITY OF THE HOUSING AND OTHER LIVING FACILITIES WERE STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION.
BUT WHEN WE VISITED, ASIDE FROM THE STEELWORKS AT THE CENTER OF THE CITY...

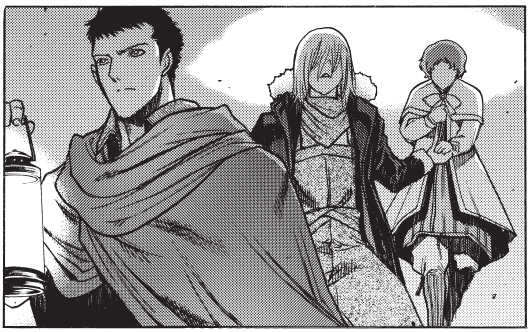

...WHILE SORUM INVITED THE REST OF US TO THE MOUNTAINS ON THE NORTH END, CLAIMING THERE WAS A MATERIAL JUST AS INTERESTING AS THE BAMBOO THERE.
XENOPHON MARVELED OVER THE GREAT FURNACE, REALIZING THAT IT WOULD BE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO MELT DOWN THE IRON BAMBOO...

DSHHHH!

DSHHHHH

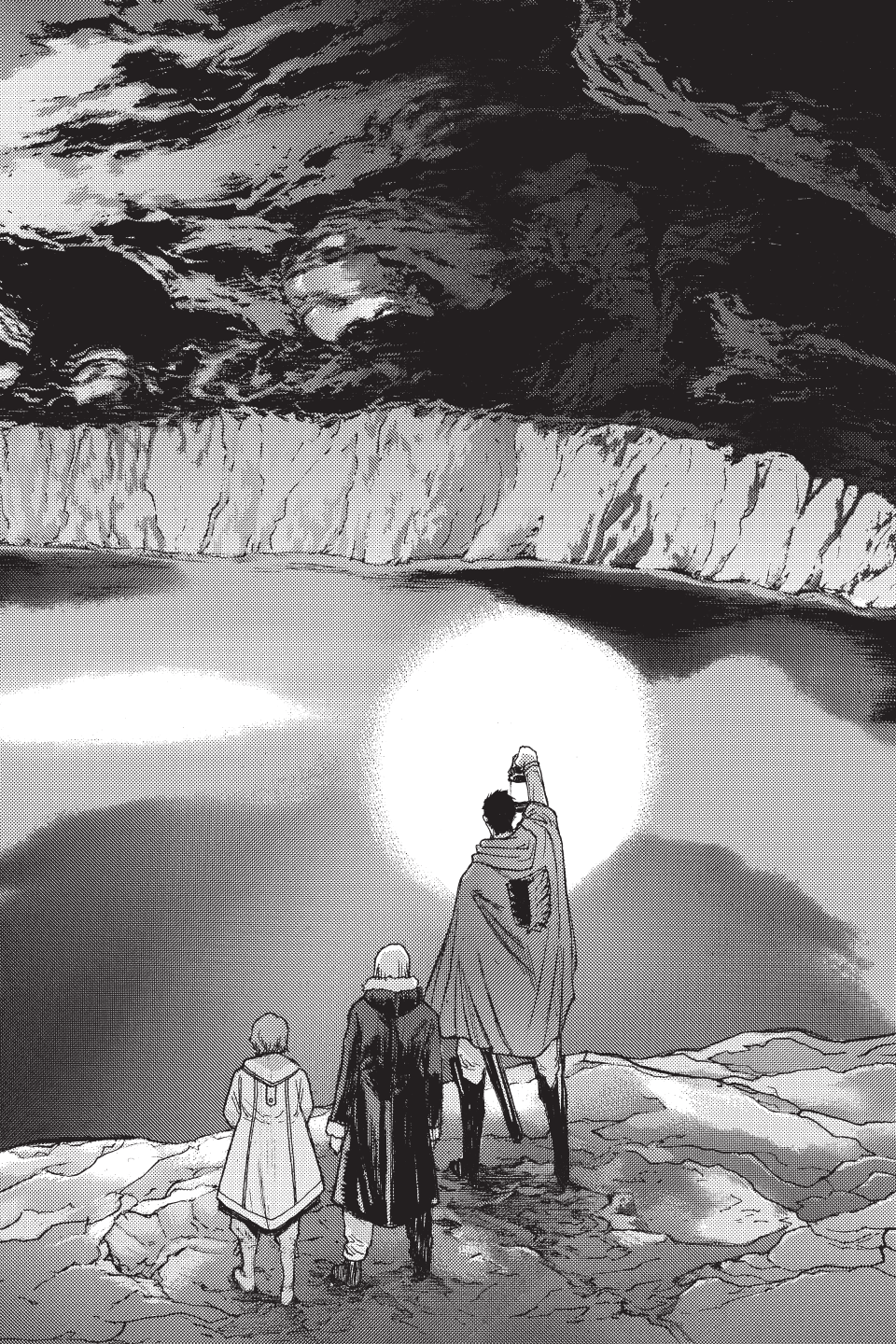
CAK
CAK

IT'S SO COLD ...



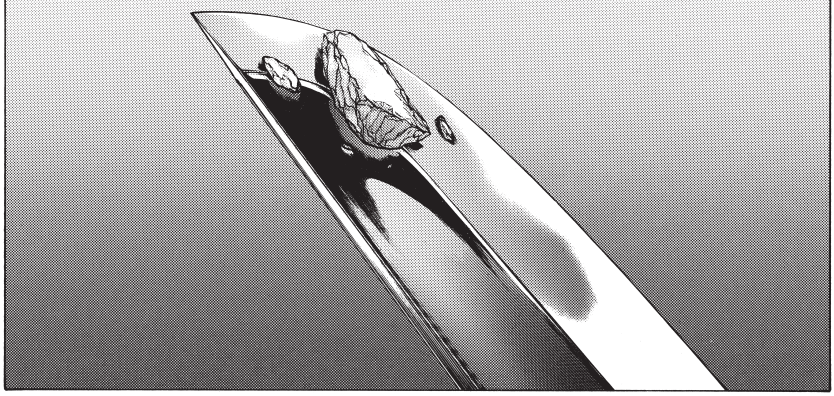
HERE WE ARE.

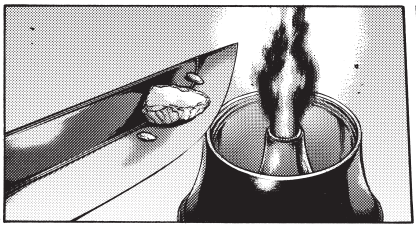
IS THE WATER FROZEN DOWN HERE? IT'S LIKE A CAVE OF ICE.
SORRY, I SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN SOME HEAVY COATS FOR US.
WE'LL ONLY BE HERE A FEW MINUTES, THOUGH, SO YOU WON'T SUFFER LONG.

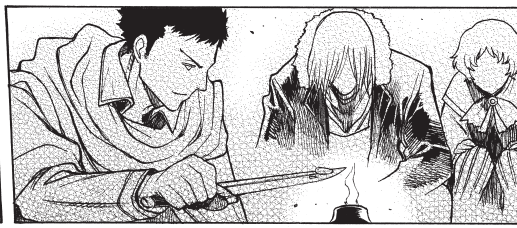


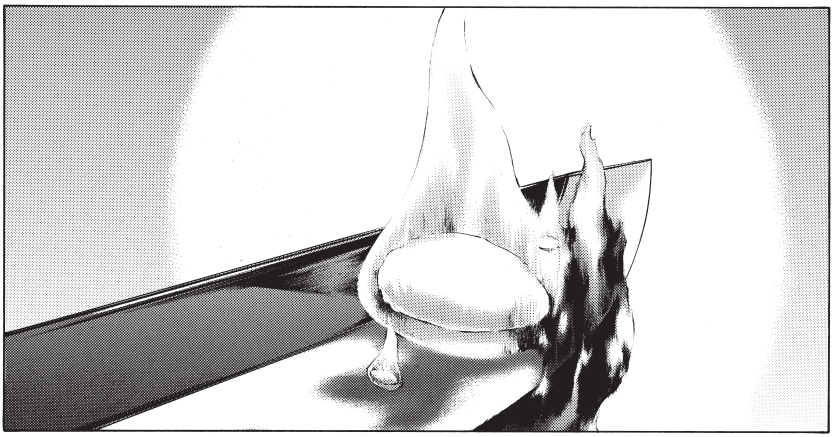
WOW... IT'S BREATH-TAKING!!
IS IT... A CALDERA LAKE?
H-HEY, CARE-FUL!
ZZSHH
?!
BUT THE WATER LOOKS MORE LIKE...

IT'S FROZEN!
THE WATER'S FROZEN SOLID!
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
IT'S ALL ICE...
THAT'S NOT ICE.
ZZHH
HUH?
WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE?
I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU.
THIS IS WHAT I WANTED TO SHOW YOU.
PUHNG

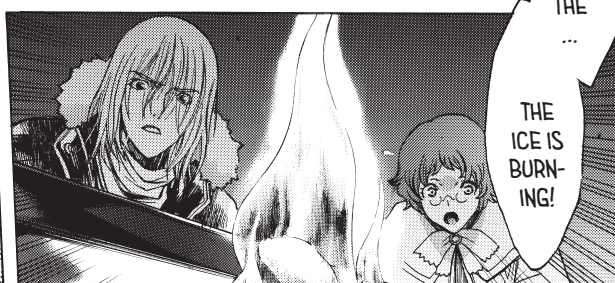








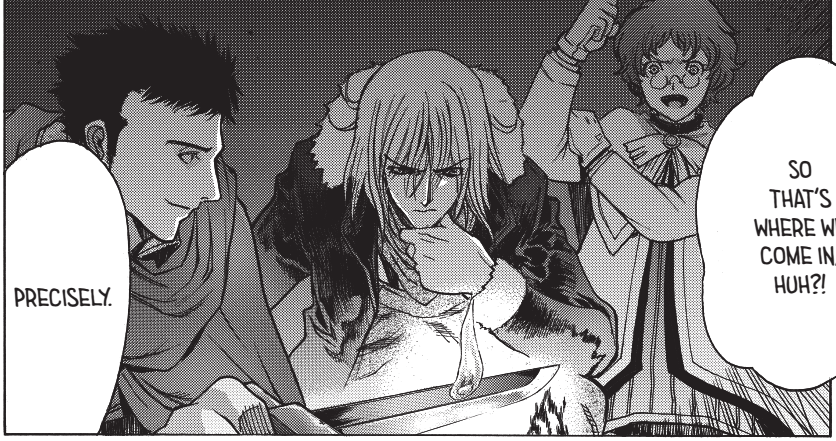
MY GOODNESS!!

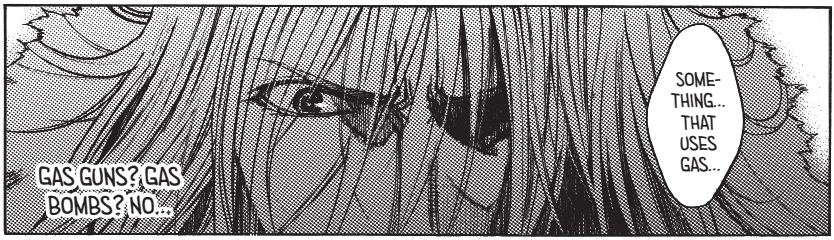

THE
...
THE ICE IS BURN-ING!

WE CALL THIS "ICEBURST STONE."

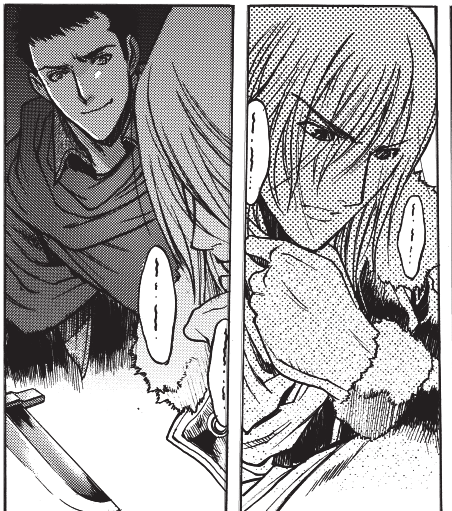
IT'S APPARENTLY A SUBTERRANEAN GAS THAT'S FROZEN INTO A SOLID.
TESTS TELL US THAT THERE'S A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ICEBURST STONE UNDER HERE.

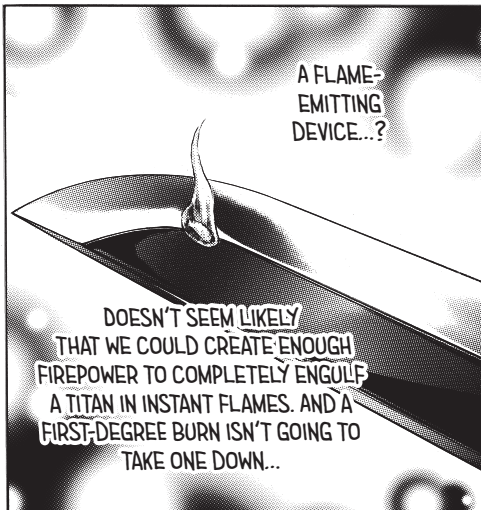
HAVE YOU ALREADY BEGUN EXTRACTING IT?
NO—WE ONLY JUST DISCOV-ERED IT.
THERE'S NO ESTAB-LISHED METHOD OF REFINING OR STORING THE GAS.


SO THAT'S WHERE WE COME IN, HUH?!
PRECISELY.

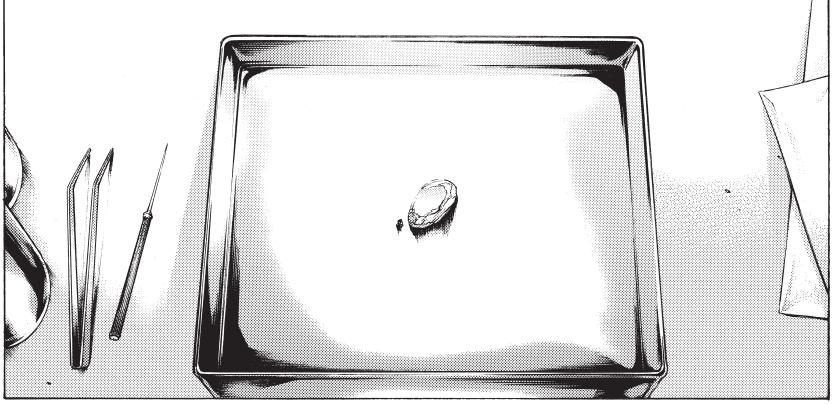

SOME-THING... THAT USES GAS...
GAS GUNS? GAS BOMBS? NO...

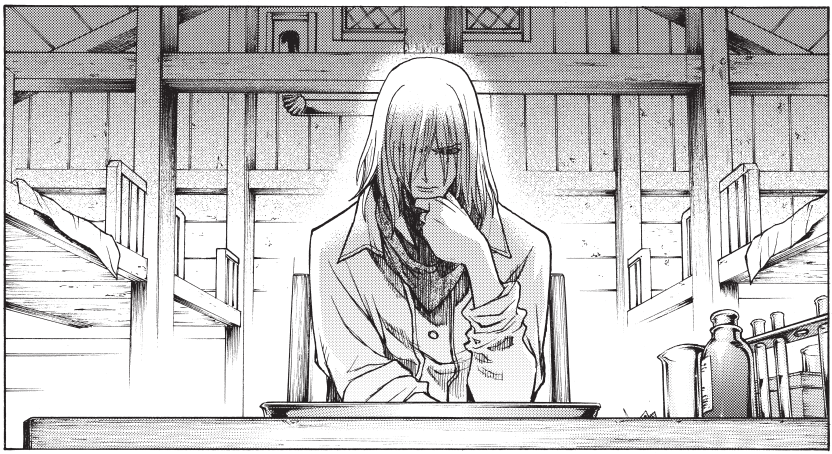
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A CANNON WORKING ON A TITAN.
I DOUBT EITHER USE WOULD BE EFFECTIVE...

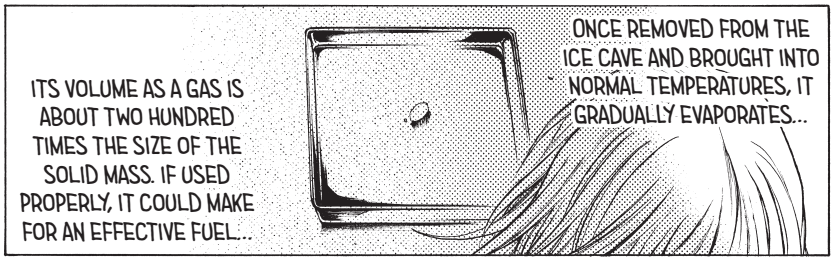


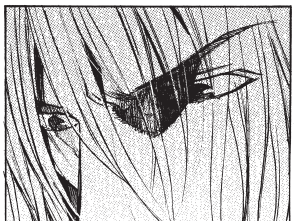

A FLAME-EMITTING DEVICE...?
DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY THAT WE COULD CREATE ENOUGH FIREPOWER TO COMPLETELY ENGULF A TITAN IN INSTANT FLAMES. AND A FIRST-DEGREE BURN ISN'T GOING TO TAKE ONE DOWN...

UNLIKE WITH THE IRON BAMBOO, I DON'T THINK IT'LL BE VERY STRAIGHT-FORWARD...
THINK YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK?
!
YOU'RE STILL CRAZY ABOUT INVENTION, YOU OLD SO-AND-SO!
WHAP
I'M SURE THAT IF WE KEEP TESTING OUT IDEAS, WE'LL LAND ON SOMETHING GREAT!
I KNOW IT!!
LET'S HOPE...
HA HA HA! YOUR ASSISTANT'S MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT THAN YOU ARE, ANGEL!

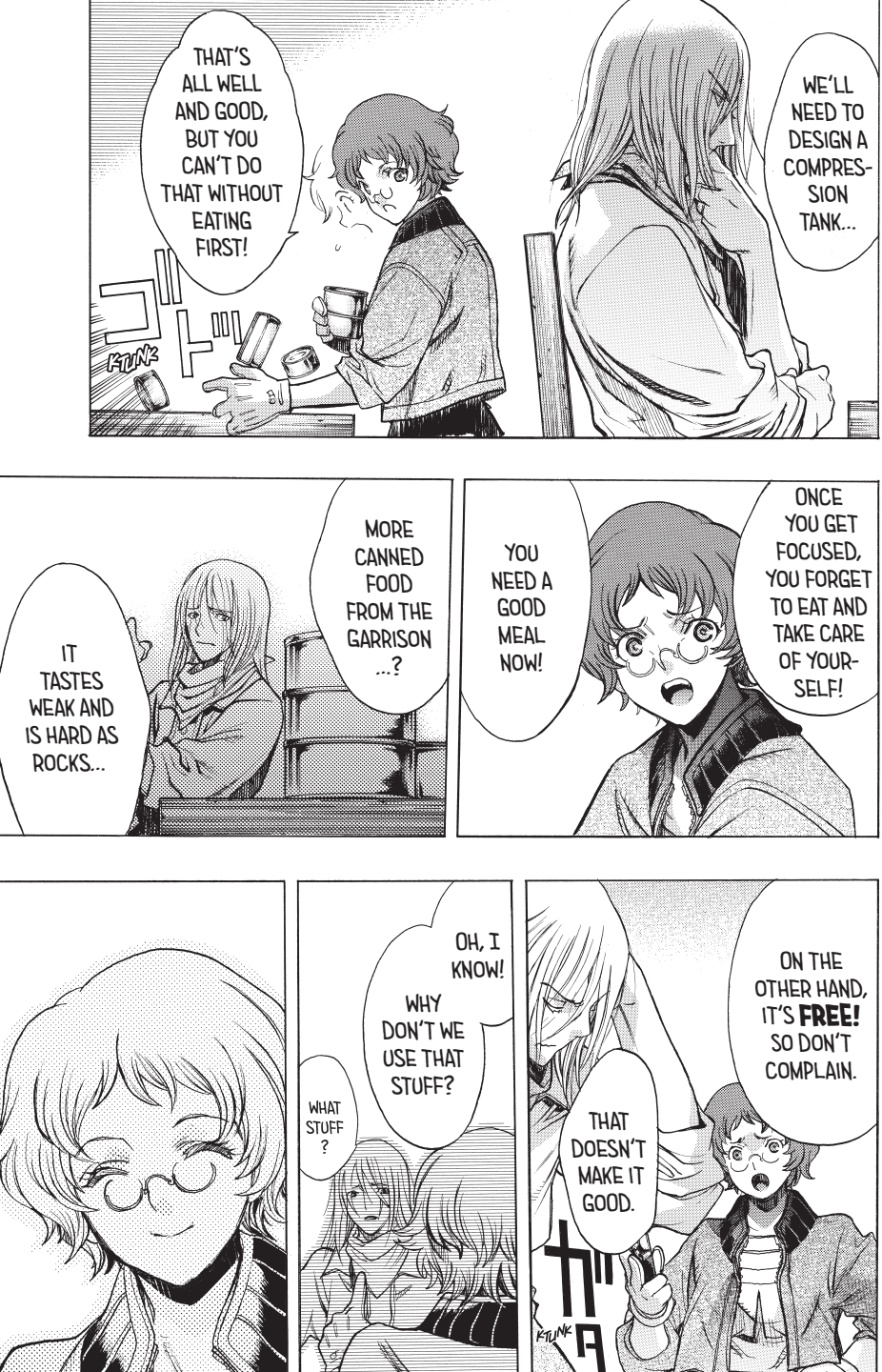


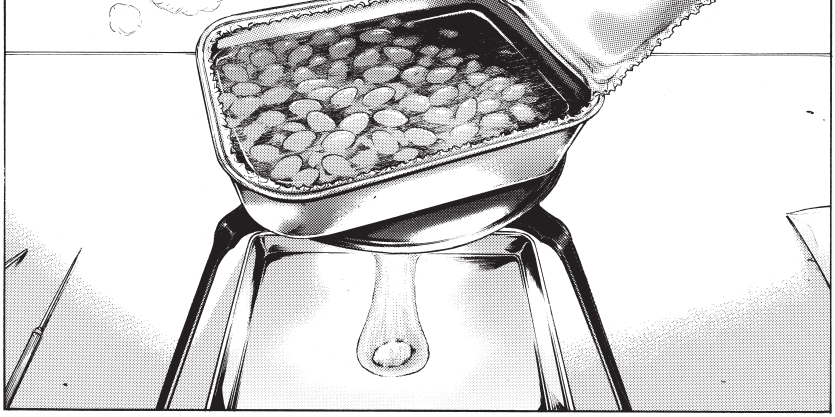


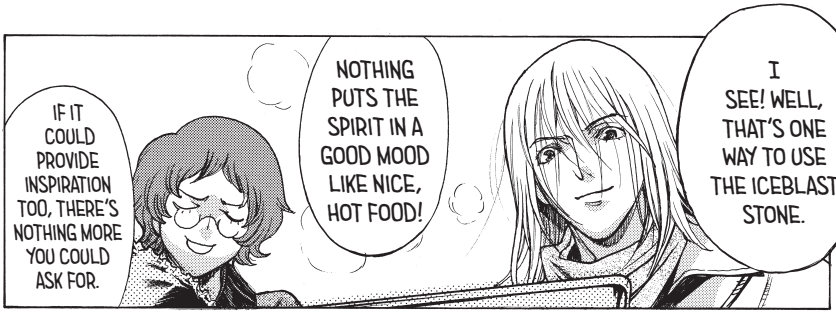

ITS VOLUME AS A GAS IS ABOUT TWO HUNDRED TIMES THE SIZE OF THE SOLID MASS. IF USED PROPERLY, IT COULD MAKE FOR AN EFFECTIVE FUEL...
ONCE REMOVED FROM THE ICE CAVE AND BROUGHT INTO NORMAL TEMPERATURES, IT GRADUALLY EVAPORATES...



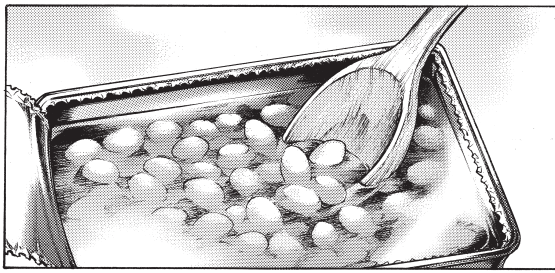
THE QUESTION IS—WHAT TO PUT IT IN?
BUT A POORLY-DESIGNED CONTAINER WILL EASILY RUPTURE AS IT EXPANDS.

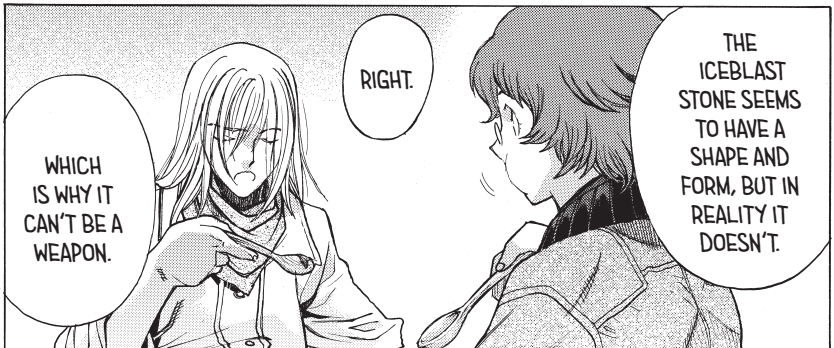

WE'LL NEED TO DESIGN A COMPRESSION TANK...
THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT YOU CAN'T DO THAT WITHOUT EATING FIRST!
KTUNK
YOU NEED A GOOD MEAL NOW!
ONCE YOU GET FOCUSED, YOU FORGET TO EAT AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!
MORE CANNED FOOD FROM THE GARRISON ...?
IT TASTES WEAK AND IS HARD AS ROCKS...
OH, I KNOW!
WHY DON'T WE USE THAT STUFF?
WHAT STUFF?
ON THE OTHER HAND, IT'S FREE! SO DON'T COMPLAIN.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT GOOD.
KTUNK

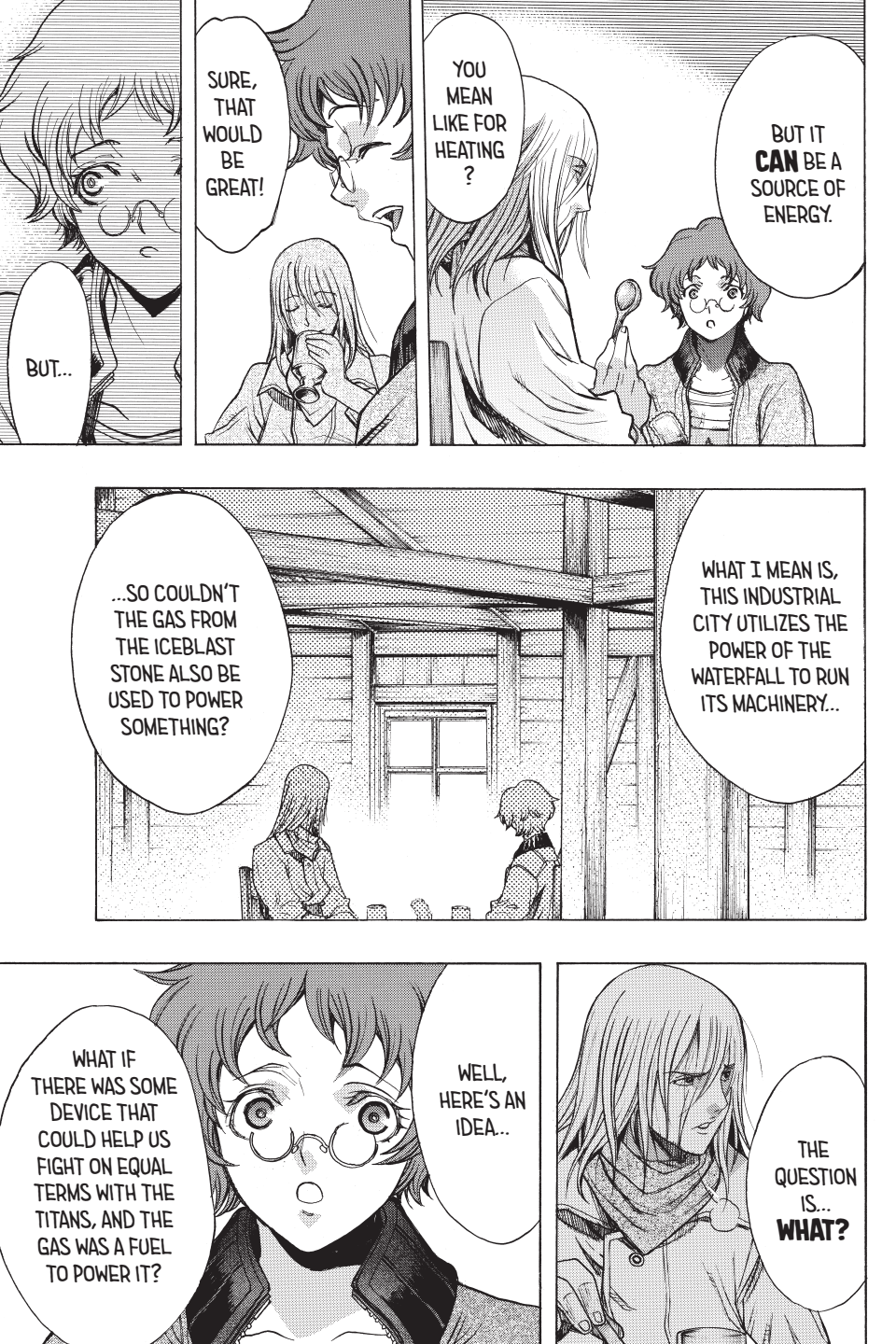


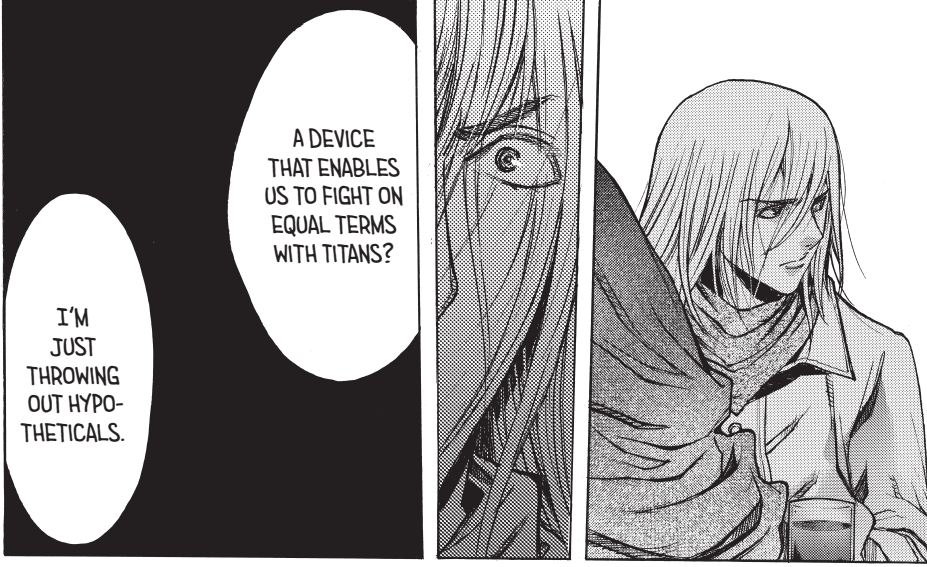

I SEE! WELL, THAT'S ONE WAY TO USE THE ICEBLAST STONE.
NOTHING PUTS THE SPIRIT IN A GOOD MOOD LIKE NICE, HOT FOOD!
IF IT COULD PROVIDE INSPIRATION TOO, THERE'S NOTHING MORE YOU COULD ASK FOR.

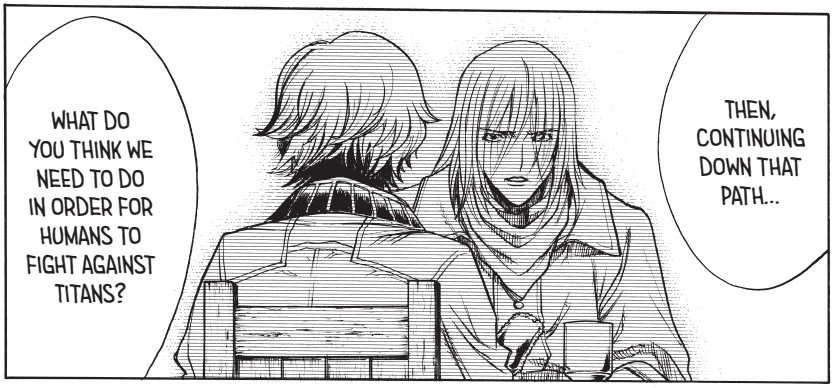
I WAS THINKING ...

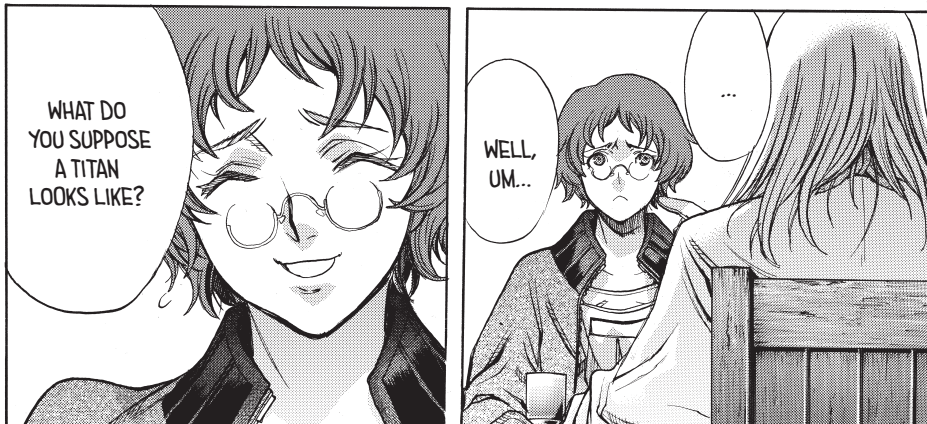



THE ICEBLAST STONE SEEMS TO HAVE A SHAPE AND FORM, BUT IN REALITY IT DOESN'T.
RIGHT.
WHICH IS WHY IT CAN'T BE A WEAPON.

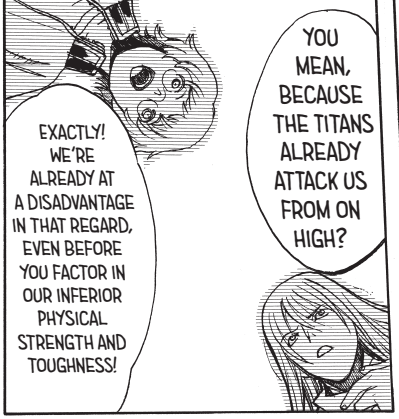

BUT...
SURE, THAT WOULD BE GREAT!
YOU MEAN LIKE FOR HEATING?
BUT IT **CAN** BE A SOURCE OF ENERGY.
...SO COULDN'T THE GAS FROM THE ICEBLAST STONE ALSO BE USED TO POWER SOMETHING?
WHAT I MEAN IS, THIS INDUSTRIAL CITY UTILIZES THE POWER OF THE WATERFALL TO RUN ITS MACHINERY...
WHAT IF THERE WAS SOME DEVICE THAT COULD HELP US FIGHT ON EQUAL TERMS WITH THE TITANS, AND THE GAS WAS A FUEL TO POWER IT?
WELL, HERE'S AN IDEA...
THE QUESTION IS... **WHAT?**

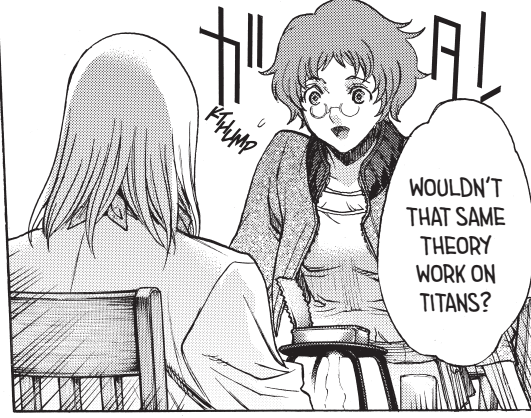

A DEVICE THAT ENABLES US TO FIGHT ON EQUAL TERMS WITH TITANS?
I'M JUST THROWING OUT HYPO-THETICALS.

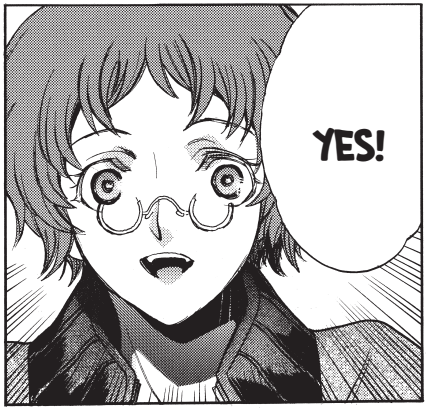

WHAT DO YOU THINK WE NEED TO DO IN ORDER FOR HUMANS TO FIGHT AGAINST TITANS?
THEN, CONTINUING DOWN THAT PATH...

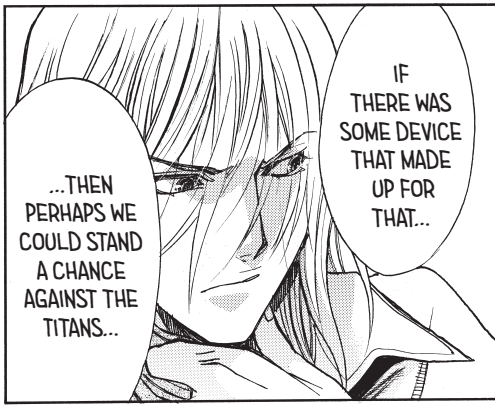

WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE A TITAN LOOKS LIKE?
WELL, UM...
...

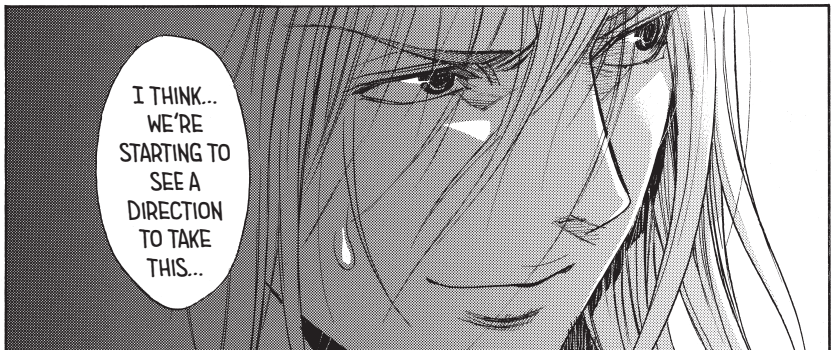
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT IN TERMS OF APPEARANCE, THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HUMANS AND TITANS IS SIZE...
SHOULD WE ASSUME THAT THEY'RE JUST ENORMOUS HUMANS?
HMMM ...
...IS THAT A TITAN STANDS ABOUT FIVE OR SIX METERS TALL.
WHEN FIGHTING, THE HIGHER THE POSITION, THE BETTER THE ADVANTAGE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
THAT'S WHAT THE SOLDIERS SAY.
MY PERSONAL SUSPICION ...


EXACTLY! WE'RE ALREADY AT A DISADVANTAGE IN THAT REGARD, EVEN BEFORE YOU FACTOR IN OUR INFERIOR PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND TOUGHNESS!
YOU MEAN, BECAUSE THE TITANS ALREADY ATTACK US FROM ON HIGH?


FFUMP
WOULDN'T THAT SAME THEORY WORK ON TITANS?


YES!

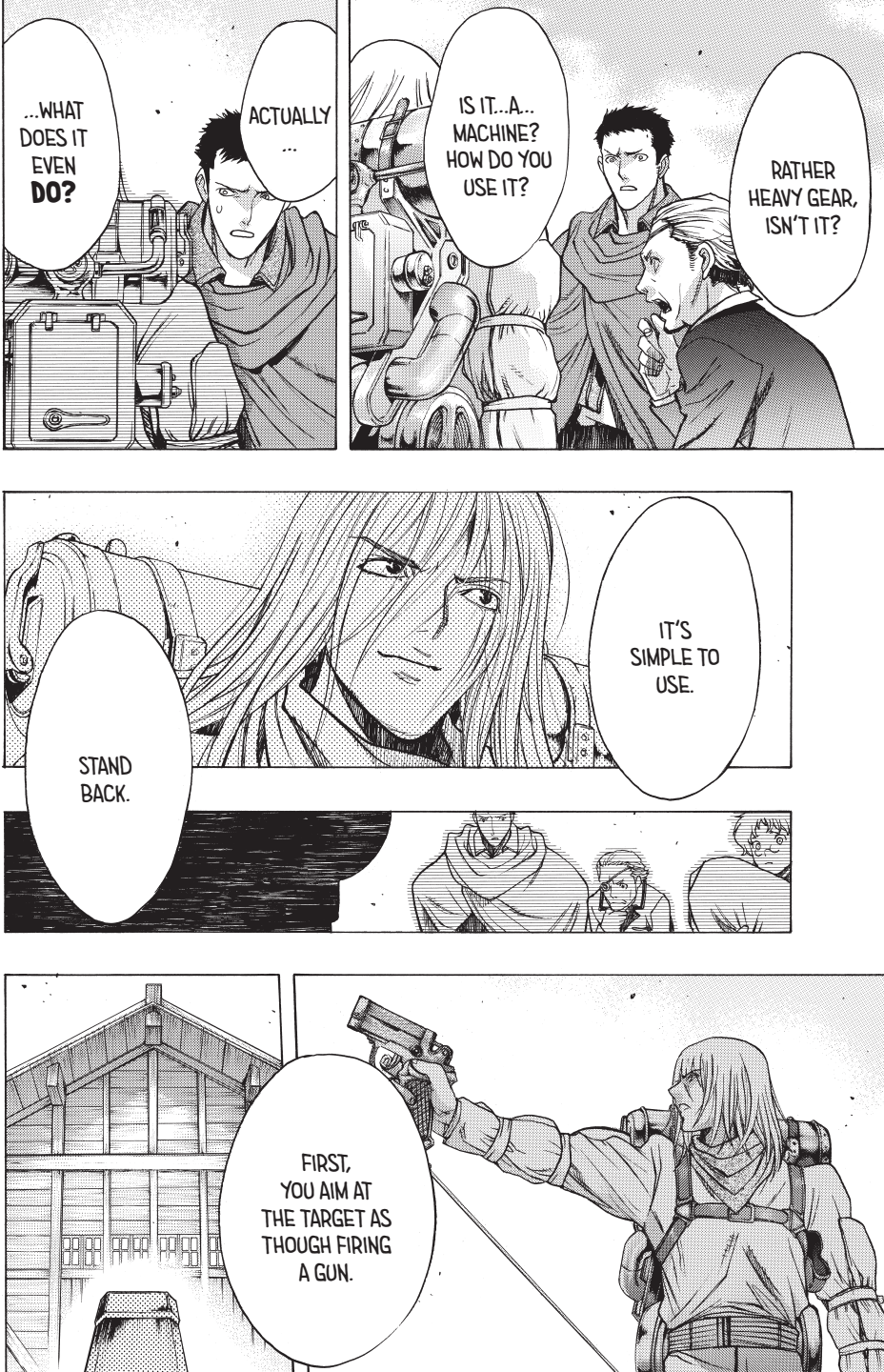

IF THERE WAS SOME DEVICE THAT MADE UP FOR THAT...
...THEN PERHAPS WE COULD STAND A CHANCE AGAINST THE TITANS...


I THINK... WE'RE STARTING TO SEE A DIRECTION TO TAKE THIS...

I'M NOT TOO WORRIED ABOUT THAT!
THUMP
MUCH EASIER SAID THAN DONE.
IN OTHER WORDS, WE JUST NEED TO CREATE SOME TOOL THAT MAKES UP FOR OUR NATURAL DISADVANTAGE!
YOU SOUND JUST LIKE THE FOREMAN...
IT'S NOT **MY** JOB TO INVENT IT!!

DURING THE ONE-WEEK STAY IN THE INDUSTRIAL CITY...
...WE WORKED BREATHLESSLY, SHORT ON SLEEP, TO DEVELOP NEW TOOLS WITH THE BOLD NEW MATERIALS AND FACILITIES AT OUR DISPOSAL.
AND ON THE MORNING WE WERE TO LEAVE...
SO...

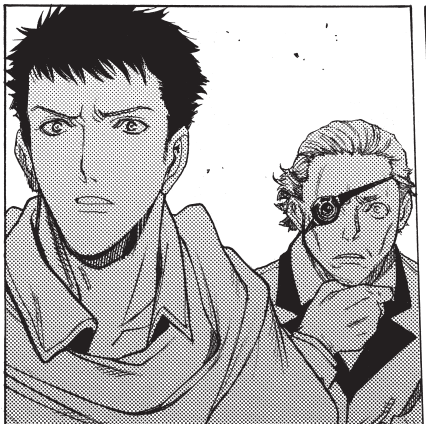
AFTER SOME TRIAL-AND-ERROR, WE HAVE CREATED THIS DEVICE.
IT... LOOKS A LITTLE SILLY...
DON'T POINT THAT OUT!!

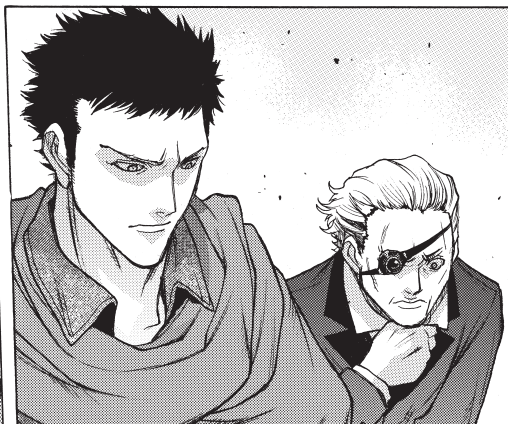

...WHAT DOES IT EVEN DO?
ACTUALLY ...
IS IT...A... MACHINE? HOW DO YOU USE IT?
RATHER HEAVY GEAR, ISN'T IT?
STAND BACK.
IT'S SIMPLE TO USE.
FIRST, YOU AIM AT THE TARGET AS THOUGH FIRING A GUN.

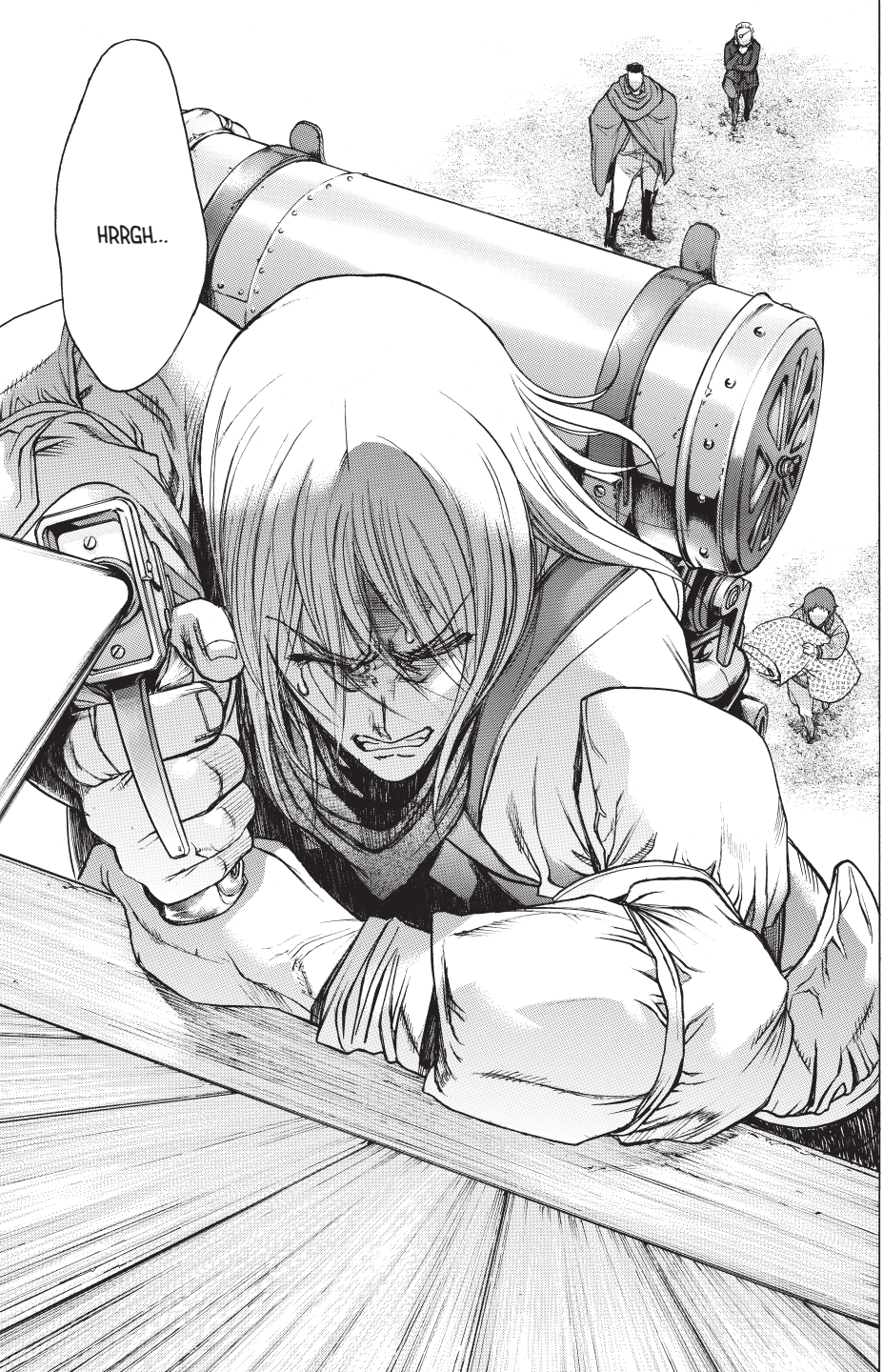
CONFIRM THAT YOU'RE PROPERLY ATTACHED TO THE TARGET SURFACE.
GRRK
PULL THE TRIGGER ON THE CONTROL MECHANISM.
GCHING
BZHU
THEN LET GO OF THE TRIGGER...
...AND THE COMPRESSED GAS IN THE CONTAINER BACK HERE...
...WILL FORCEFULLY REWIND THE WIRE...
KCHING

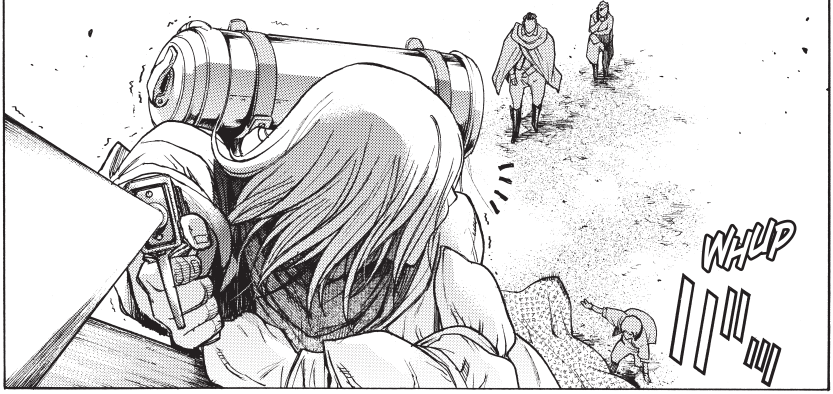
WHA-
?!!
ZZWAAAA
VOOM

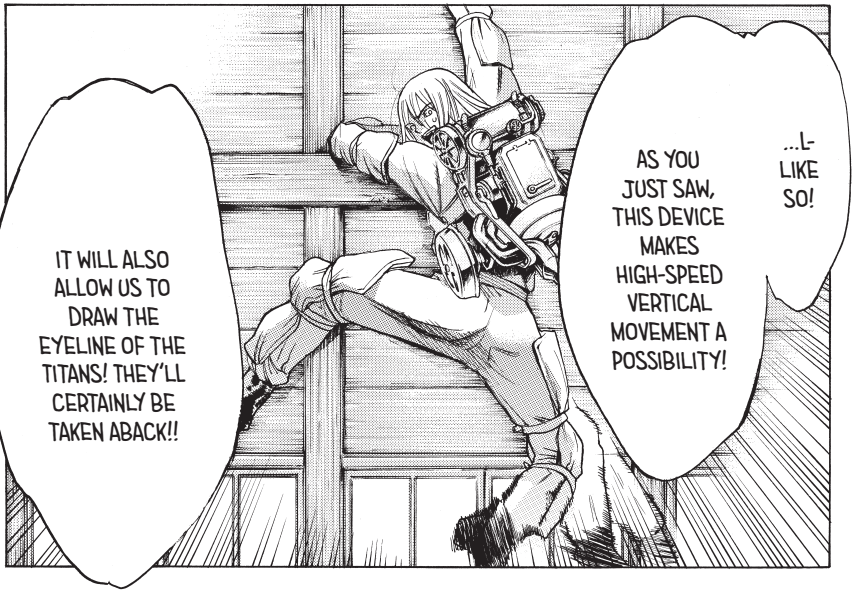
KI'IAK

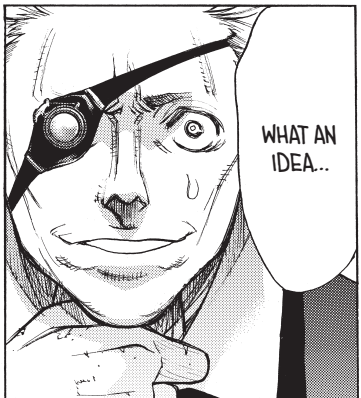




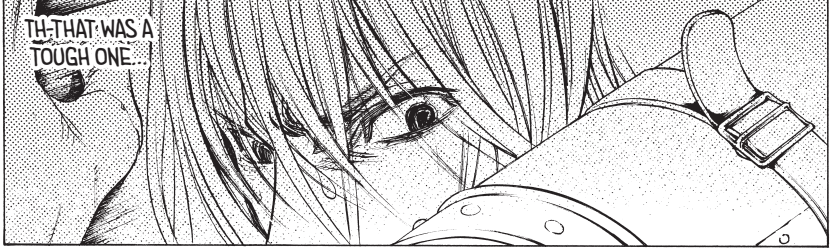

HRRGH...

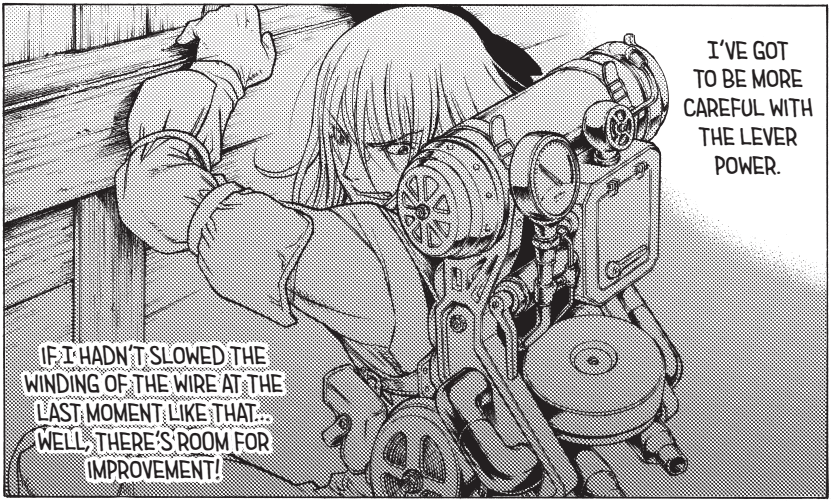

WHUP


...L-LIKE SO!
AS YOU JUST SAW, THIS DEVICE MAKES HIGH-SPEED VERTICAL MOVEMENT A POSSIBILITY!
IT WILL ALSO ALLOW US TO DRAW THE EYELINE OF THE TITANS! THEY'LL CERTAINLY BE TAKEN ABACK!!


WHAT AN IDEA...

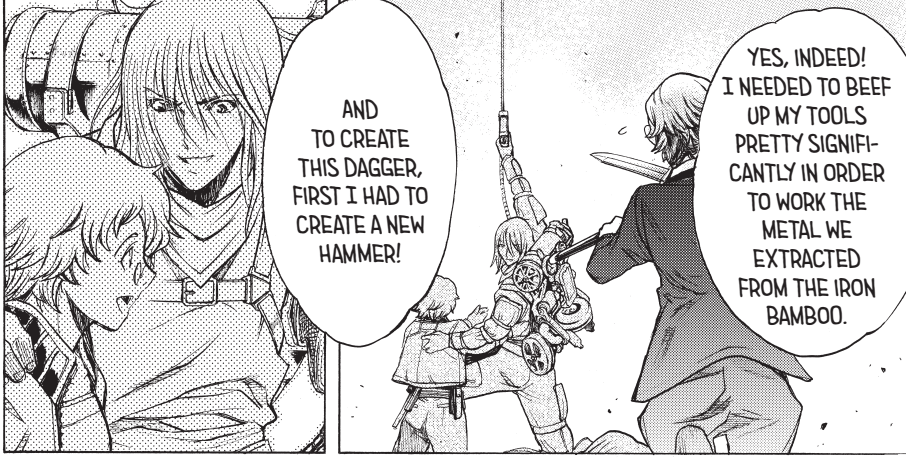
WHAT...

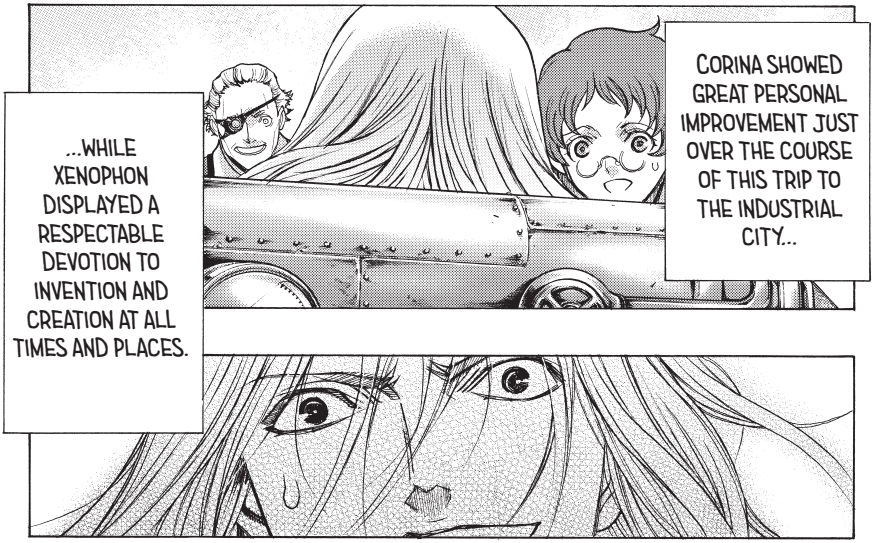

TH-THAT WAS A TOUGH ONE...


I'VE GOT TO BE MORE CAREFUL WITH THE LEVER POWER.
IF I HADN'T SLOWED THE WINDING OF THE WIRE AT THE LAST MOMENT LIKE THAT... WELL, THERE'S ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT!

AN IRON BAMBOO DAGGER?!

DON'T FORGET MY SHORT BLADE HERE! WHEN COMBINED WITH YOUR INVENTION, IT SHOULD DRASTICALLY EXPAND OUR POSSIBILITIES FOR COMBAT!!
HERE, ANGEL!





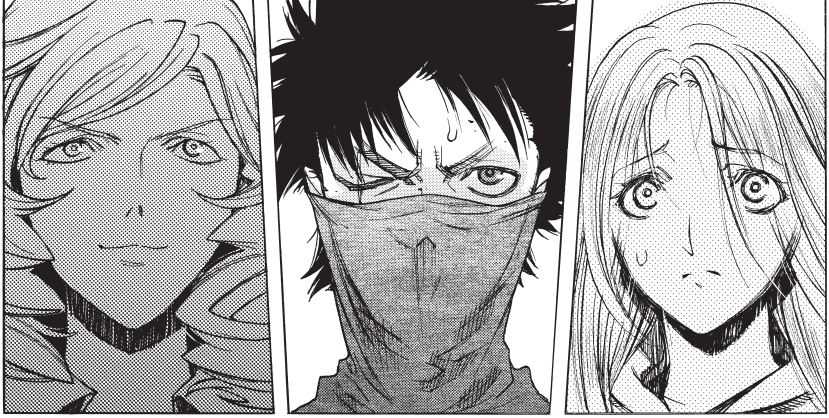
AT THIS POINT, I WAS FULL OF EXCITEMENT AND ANTICIPATION AT THE THOUGHT OF WORKING WITH AND AGAINST THESE TWO FOR YEARS TO COME...

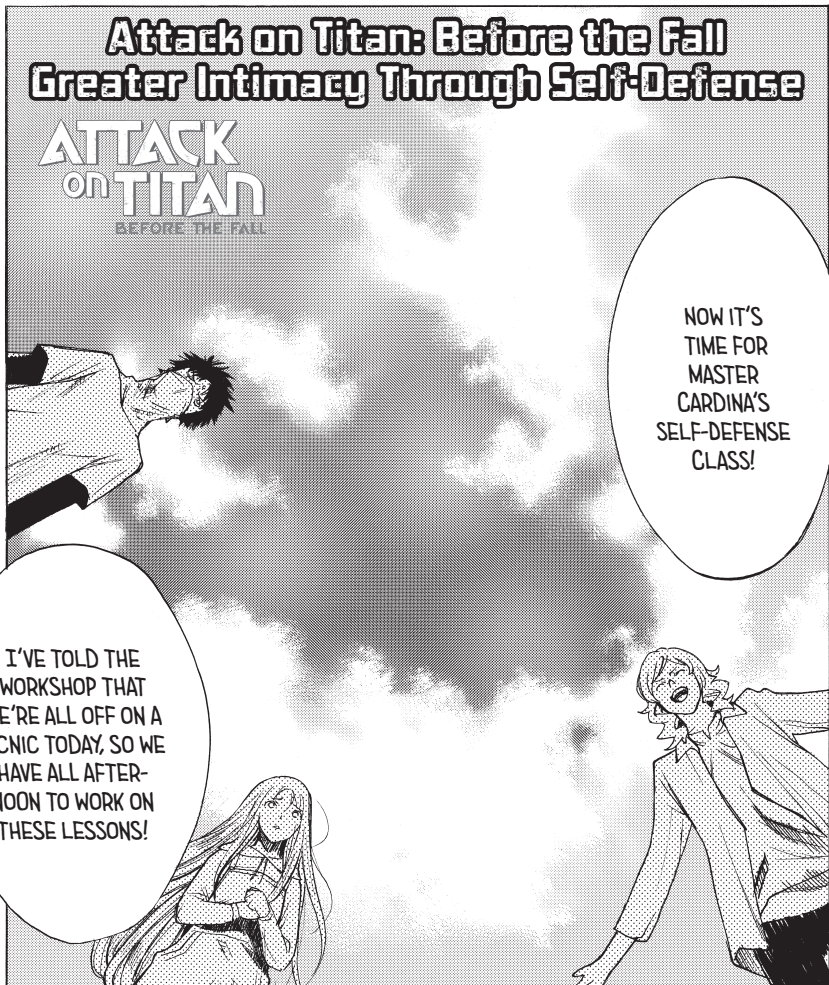
ATTACK ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL
TO BE CONTINUED

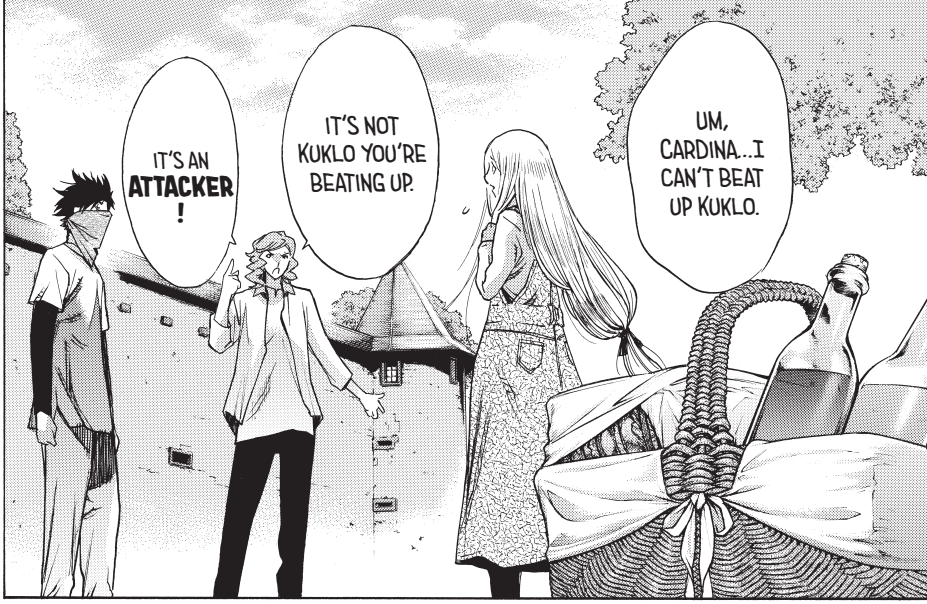
GREATER INTIMACY THROUGH SELF-DEFENSE

A story of how Sharle learned the combat skills she exhibited against the rogue noblemen in this volume.

Originally published: *Bessatsu Shonen Magazine,* September 2016 issue

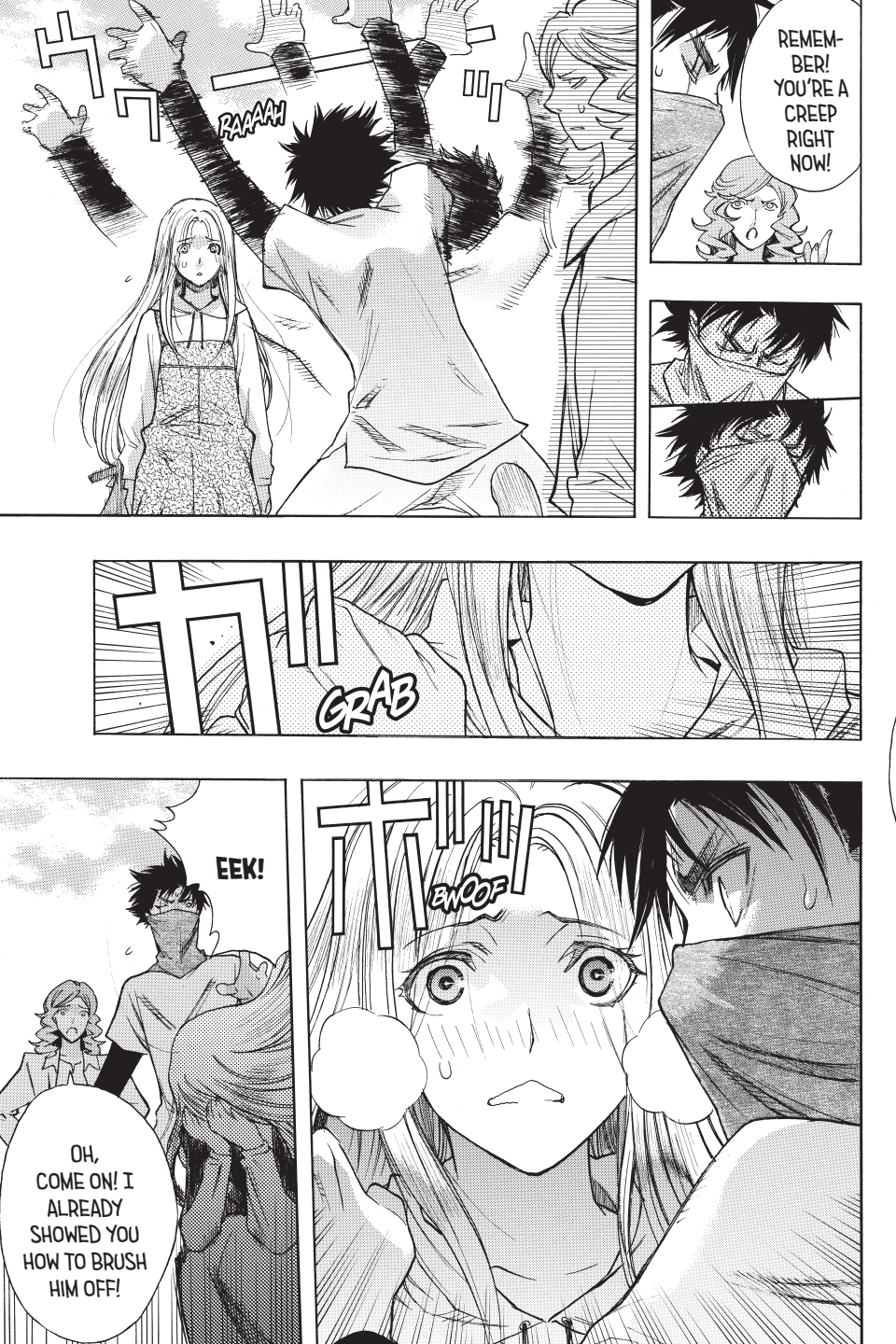



Attack on Titan: Before the Fall
Greater Intimacy Through Self-Defense
ATTACK ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL
NOW IT'S TIME FOR MASTER CARDINA'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS!
I'VE TOLD THE WORKSHOP THAT WE'RE ALL OFF ON A PICNIC TODAY, SO WE HAVE ALL AFTERNOON TO WORK ON THESE LESSONS!


IT'S AN ATTACKER!
IT'S NOT KUKLO YOU'RE BEATING UP.
UM, CARDINA...I CAN'T BEAT UP KUKLO.

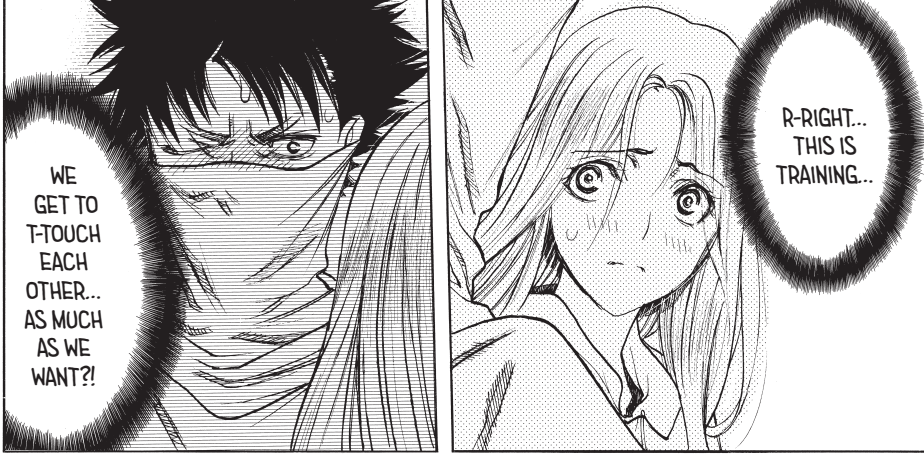
BETTER TO KNOW THEM AND NOT NEED THEM THAN THE OTHER WAY AROUND!
YOU OUGHT TO KNOW SOME TRICKS TO DEFEND YOURSELF.
EVEN IN THE HIGHLY-REGIMENTED INDUSTRIAL CITY, WE'RE STILL AMONG ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE WORKING MEN.

JUST GRAB HER BY THE SHOULDER!
A... ACCOST ...?
ALL RIGHT, KUKLO, START BY ACCOSTING SHARLE.
UH... OKAY ...

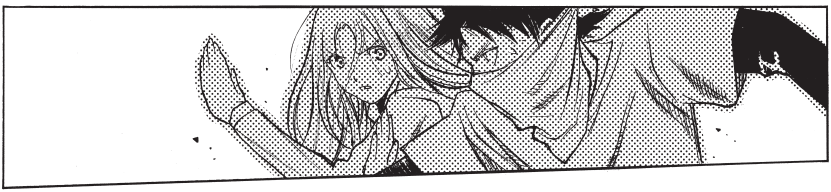

RAAAH
REMEMBER! YOU'RE A CREEP RIGHT NOW!
GRAB
EEK!
BWOOF
OH, COME ON! I ALREADY SHOWED YOU HOW TO BRUSH HIM OFF!

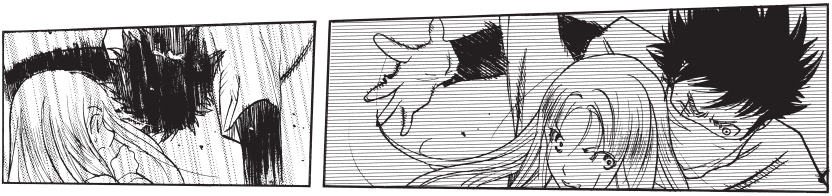
TAKE IT SERIOUSLY THIS TIME!
HRMP
WHOA!
OH!
LURCH
HE'S JUST... SO CLOSE!
B-BUT... IT'S NOT THAT EASY...!
WHUD

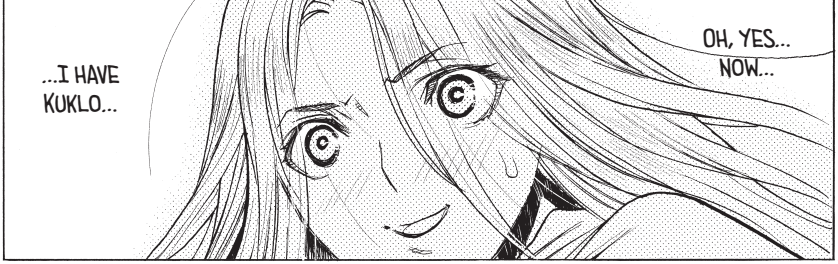
Y-YEAH...
WE WERE PRESSED AGAINST EACH OTHER...
YOU OKAY, SHARLE?!
はーん AHA...
AH! SORRY!!
LISTEN, YOU TWO, THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AWKWARD!
JUST LEAN IN AND GRAB ONE ANOTHER! REMEMBER, THIS IS TRAINING!


WE GET TO T-TOUCH EACH OTHER... AS MUCH AS WE WANT?!
R-RIGHT... THIS IS TRAINING...

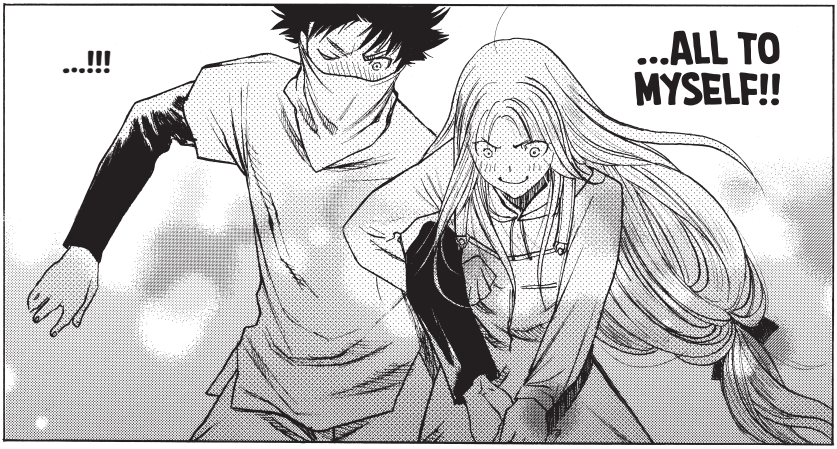
R... READY !
HERE WE GO, KUKLO !!
G-GOOD POINT!
LET'S SEE SOME ACTION! YOU WON'T BE READY FOR THE REAL THING IF YOU DON'T TAKE THIS PRACTICE SERIOUSLY!



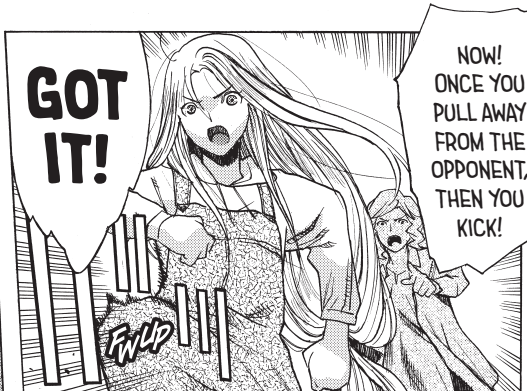



...I HAVE KUKLO...
OH, YES... NOW...

I HAVE SHARLE...


...!!!
...ALL TO MYSELF!!

NOT SO FAST!


GOT IT!
NOW! ONCE YOU PULL AWAY FROM THE OPPONENT, THEN YOU KICK!
FWUP

DONG
UGH!
SLIP
WHOOPS!
AAAAH! I'M SO SORRY!!
THEY'RE SO INNOCENT...

Greater Intimacy Through Self-Defense · End

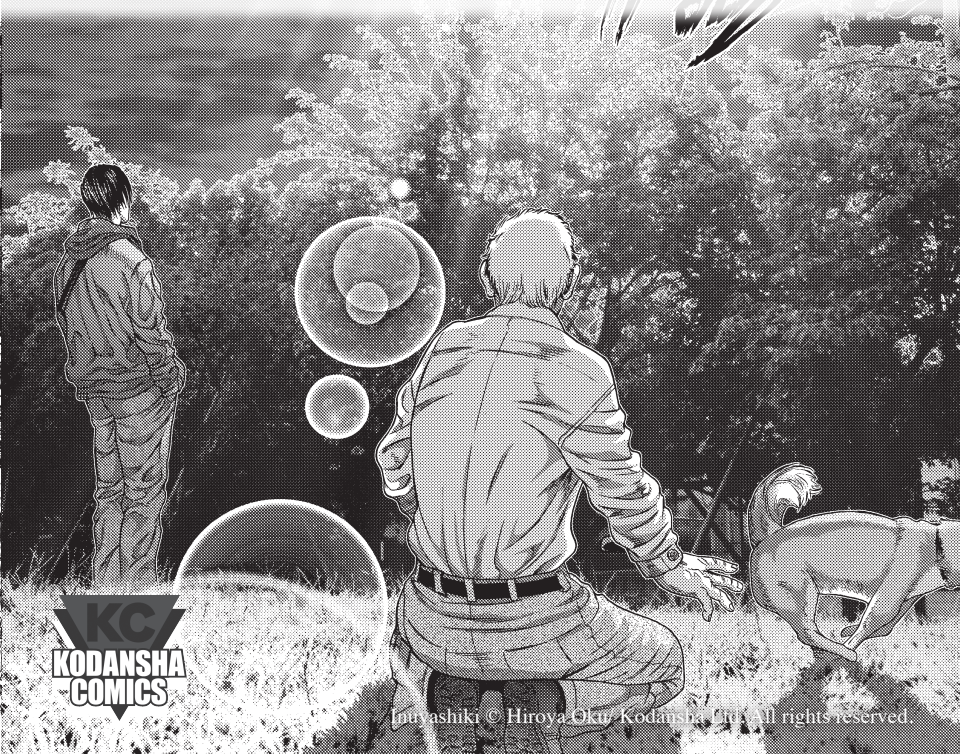
INUYASHIKI

A superhero like none you've ever seen, from the creator of "Gantz"!

Ichiro Inuyashiki is down on his luck. He looks much older than his 58 years, his children despise him, and his wife thinks he's a useless coward. So when he's diagnosed with stomach cancer and given three months to live, it seems the only one who'll miss him is his dog.

Then a blinding light fills the sky, and the old man is killed... only to wake up later in a body he almost recognizes as his own. Can it be that Ichiro Inuyashiki is no longer human?

comes in extra-large editions with color pages!



KC KODANSHA COMICS

Inuyashiki © Hiroya Oku/ Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

DON'T MISS THE MOST ACCLAIMED ACTION MANGA OF 2013!

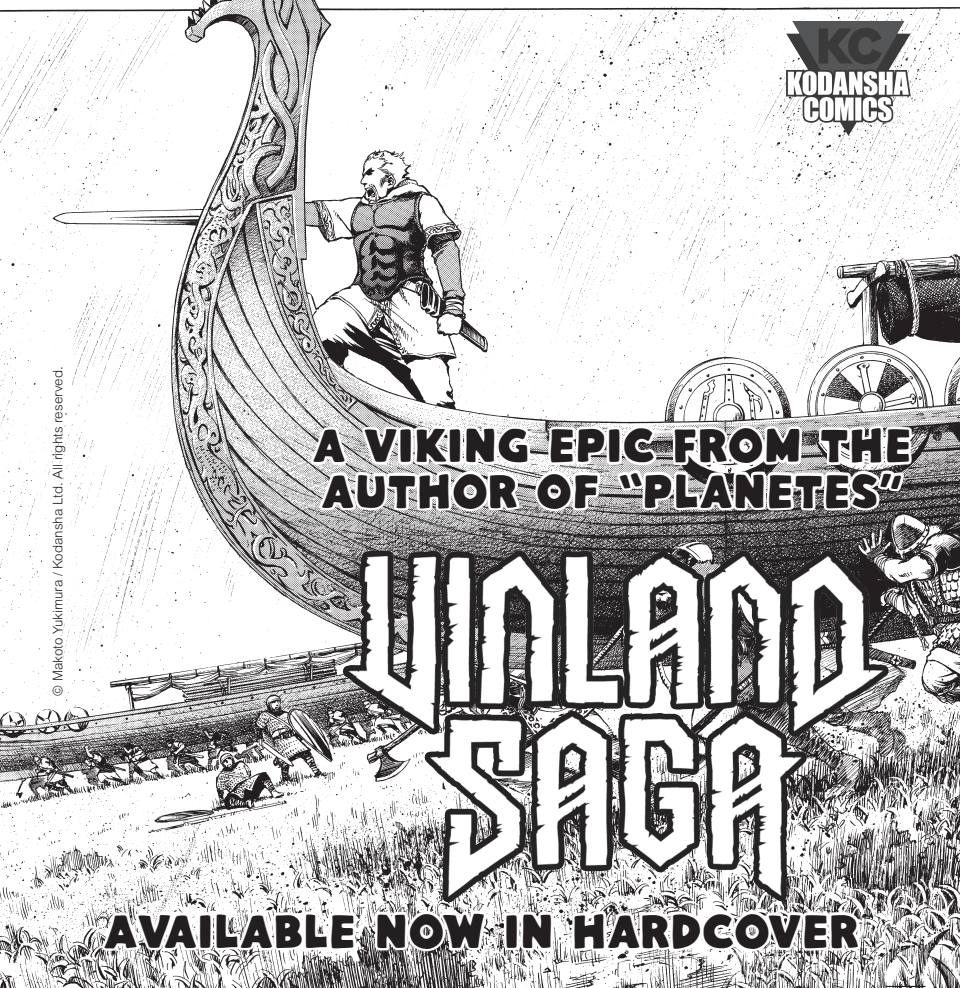
"Gripping doesn't begin to describe Vinland Saga. 5 stars." —ICv2

"Deeply engrossing… If you have any interest at all in Vikings, the Medieval period, or pirates, this is not a series you want to miss."
—Anime News Network

"The art is gorgeous, a combination of beautiful cartooning and realistic backgrounds. Yukimura is also a master of pacing, both in frenetic battle scenes and charged emotional moments."
—Faith Erin Hicks, *Friends With Boys*

"For those who love Berserk, you'll love this too… Worth the long wait."
—A Case Suitable for Treatment

"It will be impossible to stop watching this story unfold." —Japan Media Arts Awards jury



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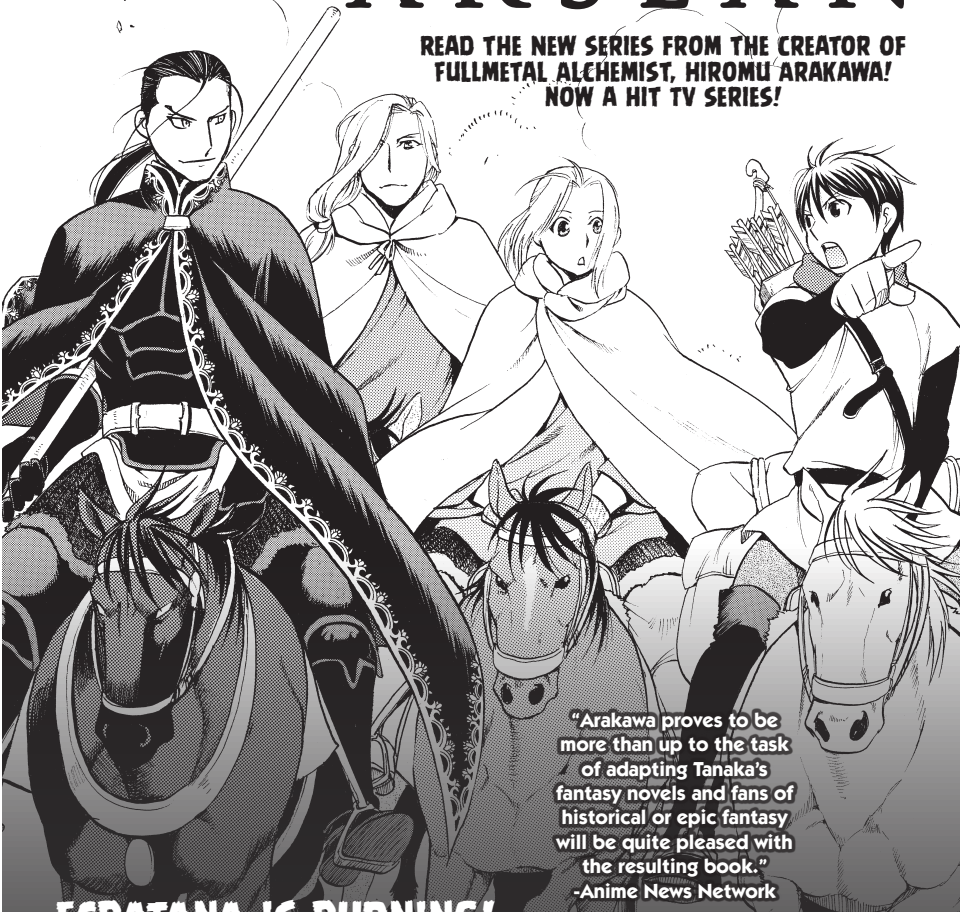
KODANSHA COMICS

THE HEROIC LEGEND OF ARSLAN

READ THE NEW SERIES FROM THE CREATOR OF FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST, HIROMU ARAKAWA!
NOW A HIT TV SERIES!



"Arakawa proves to be more than up to the task of adapting Tanaka's fantasy novels and fans of historical or epic fantasy will be quite pleased with the resulting book."
-Anime News Network

ECBATANA IS BURNING!

Arslan is the young and curious prince of Pars who, despite his best efforts doesn't seem to have what it takes to be a proper king like his father. At the age of 14, Arslan goes to his first battle and loses everything as the blood-soaked mist of war gives way to scorching flames, bringing him to face the demise of his once glorious kingdom. However, it is Arslan's destiny to be a ruler, and despite the trials that face him, he must now embark on a journey to reclaim his fallen kingdom.

Available now in print and digitally!

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FINALLY, A LOWER-COST OMNIBUS EDITION OF FAIRY TAIL! CONTAINS VOLUMES 1-5. ONLY $39.99!

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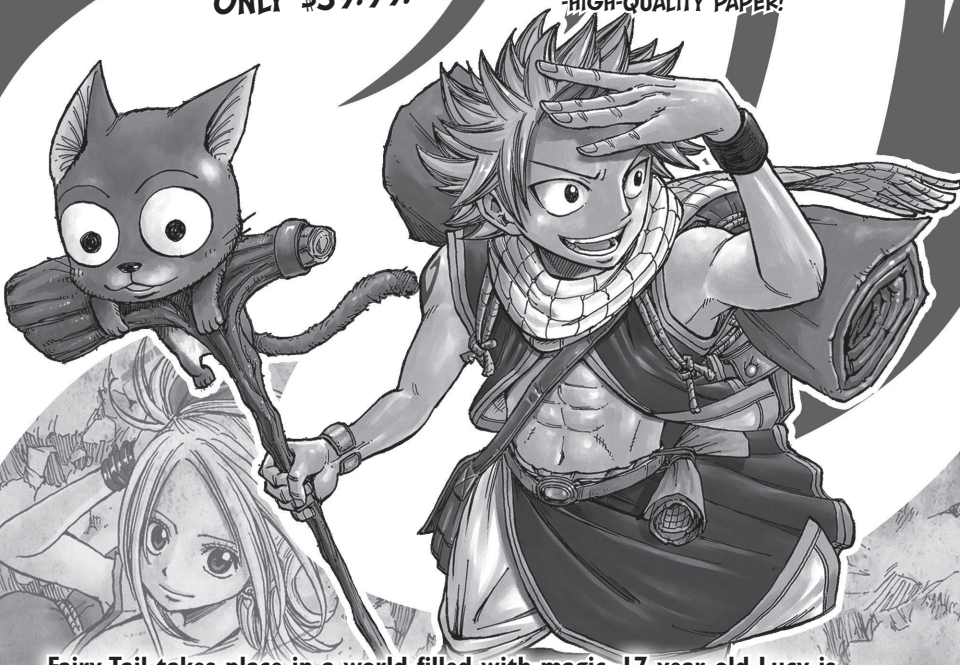
-NEARLY 1,000 PAGES!
-EXTRA LARGE 7"X10.5" TRIM SIZE!
-HIGH-QUALITY PAPER!



Fairy Tail takes place in a world filled with magic. 17-year-old Lucy is a wizard-in-training who wants to join a magic guild so that she can become a full-fledged wizard. She dreams of joining the most famous guild, known as Fairy Tail. One day she meets Natsu, a boy raised by a dragon which vanished when he was young. Natsu has devoted his life to finding his dragon father. When Natsu helps Lucy out of a tricky situation, she discovers that he is a member of Fairy Tail, and our heroes' adventure together begins.

FAIRY TAIL

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MASTER'S EDITION

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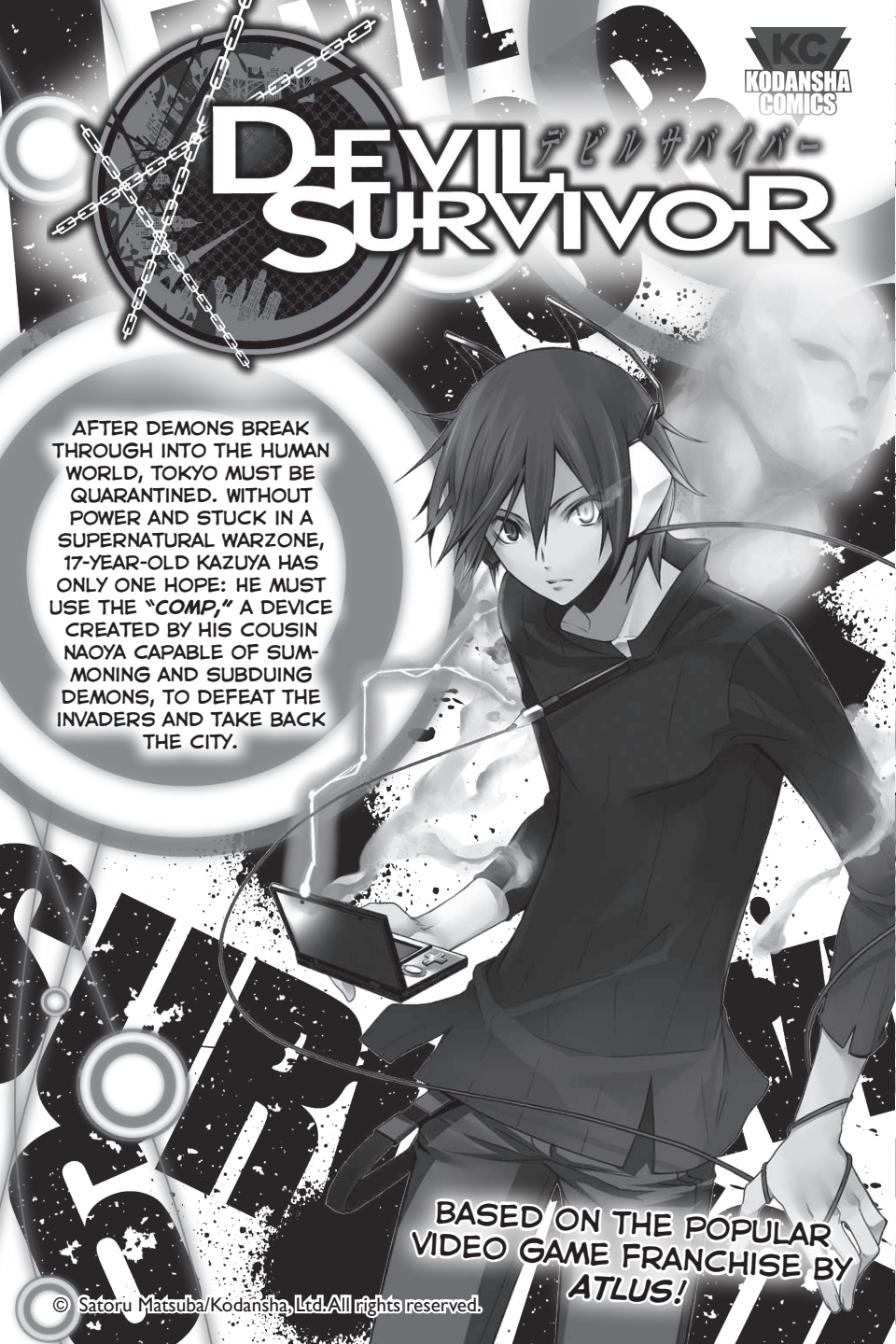
DEVIL SURVIVOR

デビルサバイバー



AFTER DEMONS BREAK THROUGH INTO THE HUMAN WORLD, TOKYO MUST BE QUARANTINED. WITHOUT POWER AND STUCK IN A SUPERNATURAL WARZONE, 17-YEAR-OLD KAZUYA HAS ONLY ONE HOPE: HE MUST USE THE *"COMP,"* A DEVICE CREATED BY HIS COUSIN NAOYA CAPABLE OF SUMMONING AND SUBDUING DEMONS, TO DEFEAT THE INVADERS AND TAKE BACK THE CITY.

BASED ON THE POPULAR VIDEO GAME FRANCHISE BY *ATLUS!*

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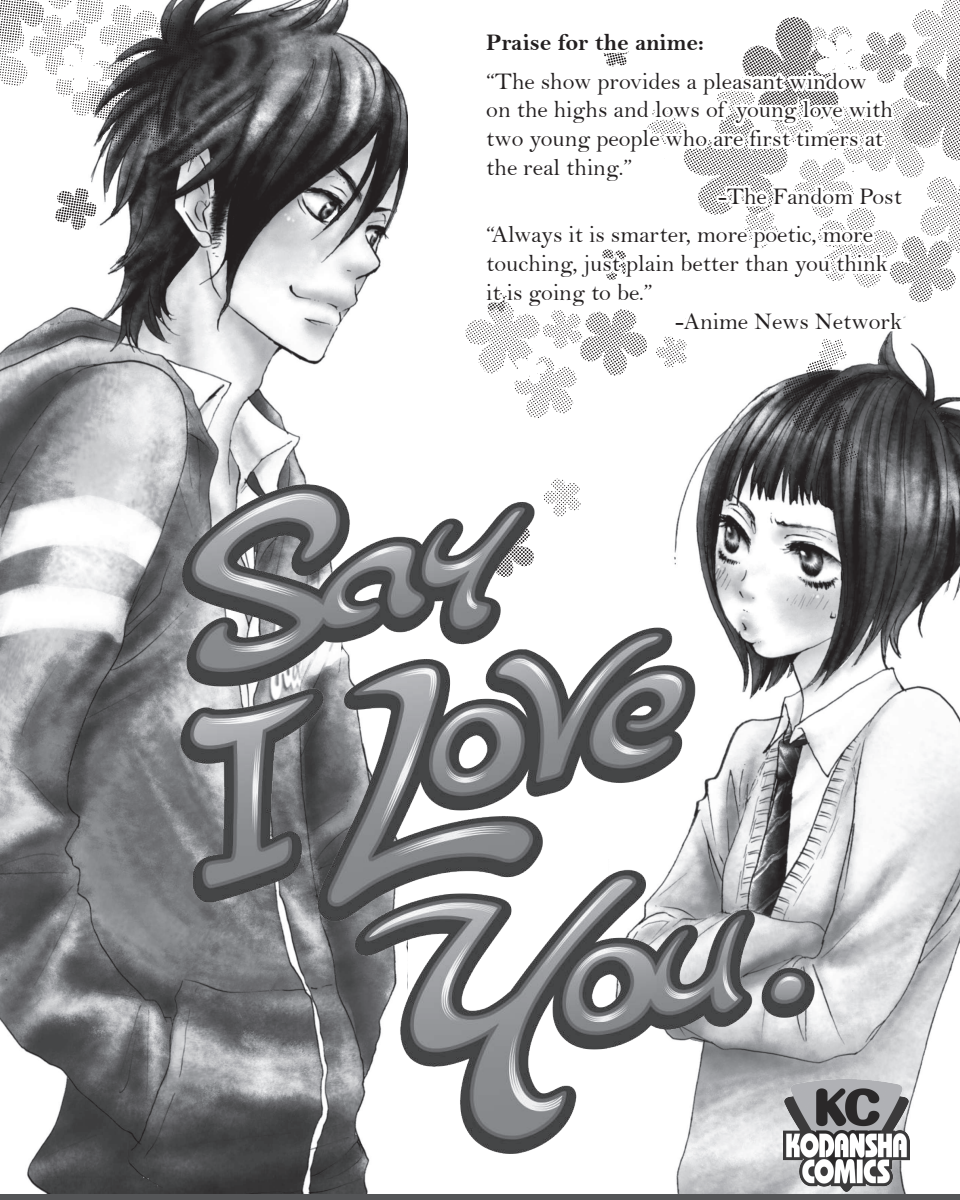
Praise for the anime:

"The show provides a pleasant window on the highs and lows of young love with two young people who are first timers at the real thing."

-The Fandom Post

"Always it is smarter, more poetic, more touching, just plain better than you think it is going to be."

-Anime News Network



Mei Tachibana has no friends — and says she doesn't need them!

But everything changes when she accidentally roundhouse kicks the most popular boy in school! However, Yamato Kurosawa isn't angry in the slightest—in fact, he thinks his ordinary life could use an unusual girl like Mei. But winning Mei's trust will be a tough task. How long will she refuse to say, "I love you"?

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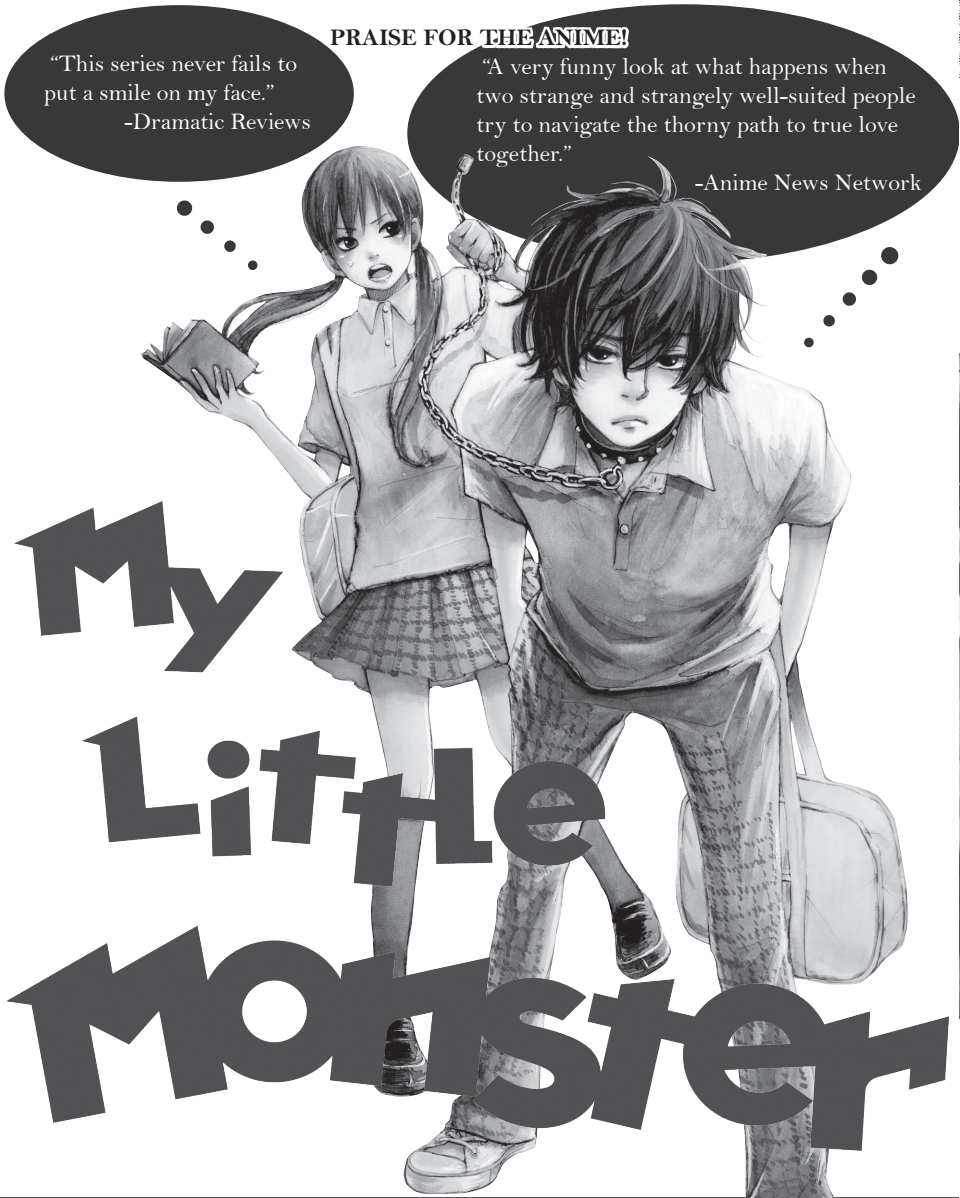
PRAISE FOR THE ANIME!

"This series never fails to put a smile on my face."
-Dramatic Reviews

"A very funny look at what happens when two strange and strangely well-suited people try to navigate the thorny path to true love together."
-Anime News Network



My Little Monster

OPPOSITES ATTRACT...MAYBE?

Haru Yoshida is feared as an unstable and violent "monster." Mizutani Shizuku is a grade-obsessed student with no friends. Fate brings these two together to form the most unlikely pair. Haru firmly believes he's in love with Mizutani and she firmly believes he's insane.

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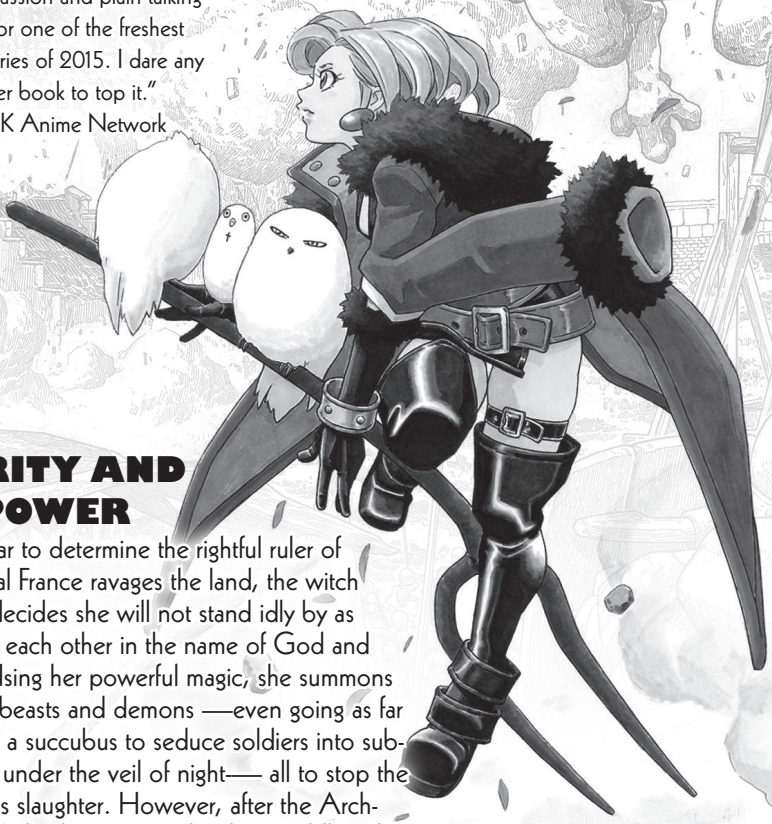
KC KODANSHA COMICS

María
THE VIRGIN WITCH

"Maria's brand of righteous justice, passion and plain talking make for one of the freshest manga series of 2015. I dare any other book to top it."
—UK Anime Network



PURITY AND POWER

As a war to determine the rightful ruler of medieval France ravages the land, the witch Maria decides she will not stand idly by as men kill each other in the name of God and glory. Using her powerful magic, she summons various beasts and demons —even going as far as using a succubus to seduce soldiers into submission under the veil of night— all to stop the needless slaughter. However, after the Archangel Michael puts an end to her meddling, he curses her to lose her powers if she ever gives up her virginity. Will she forgo the forbidden fruit of adulthood in order to bring an end to the merciless machine of war?
Available now in print and digitally!

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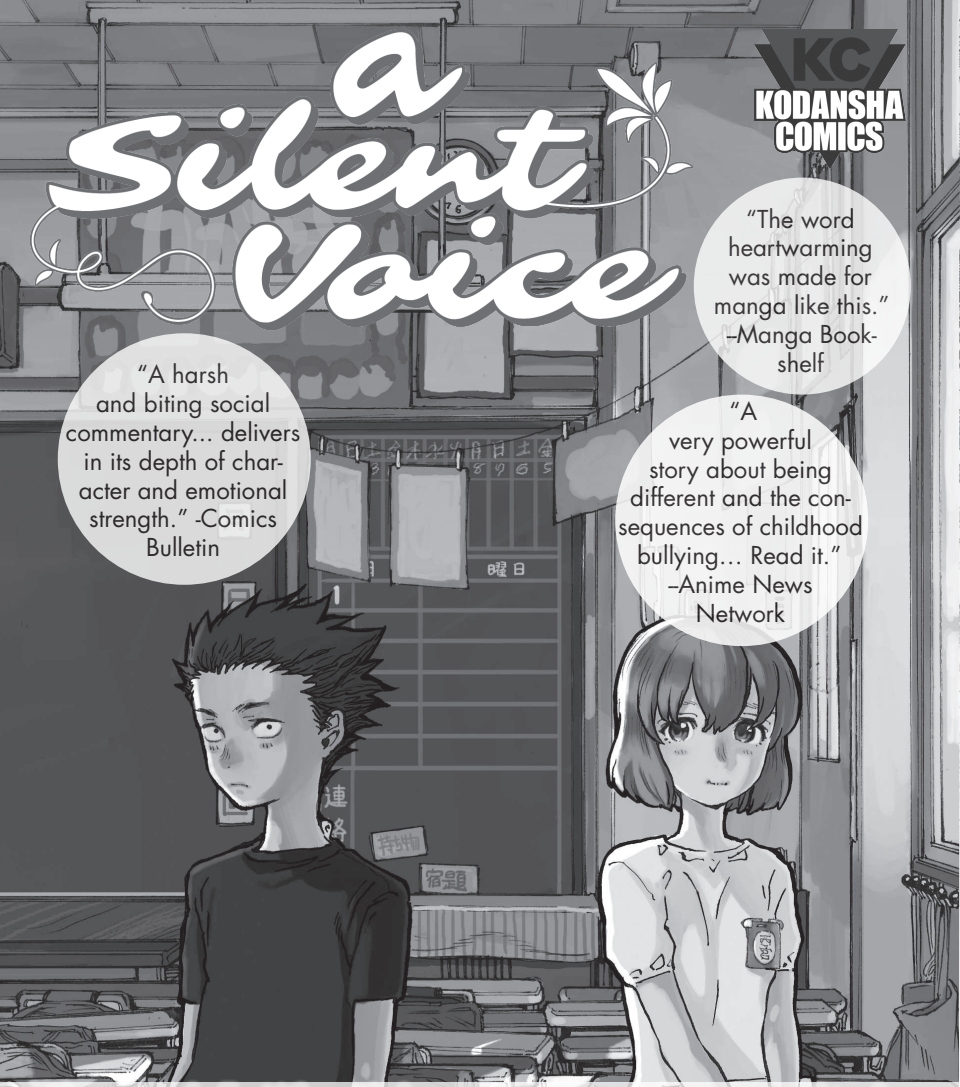

Shoya is a bully. When Shoko, a girl who can't hear, enters his elementary school class, she becomes their favorite target, and Shoya and his friends goad each other into devising new tortures for her. But the children's cruelty goes too far. Shoko is forced to leave the school, and Shoya ends up shouldering all the blame. Six years later, the two meet again. Can Shoya make up for his past mistakes, or is it too late?

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SHERLOCK BONES

KC KODANSHA COMICS

DEDUCTIVE DOG DETECTIVE

When Takeru adopts a new pet, he's in for a surprise—the dog is none other than the reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes.With no one else able to communicate with Holmes, Takeru is roped into becoming Sherdog's assistant, John Watson. Using his sleuthing skills, Holmes uncovers clues to solve the trickiest crimes.

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ATTACK
ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL

Attack on Titan: Before the Fall 10

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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Lettering: Steve Wands
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Kodansha Comics edition cover design by Phil Balsman

STOP!

You are going the *wrong way!*

Manga is a *completely* different type of reading experience.

To start at the *BEGINNING*, go to the *END!*

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way-from right to left, exactly the opposite of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: just go to the other end of the book, and read each page-and each panel-from the right side to the left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be.